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SUPPLEMENT.

A Supplement sheet containing ten columns of reading matter, accompanies this number of the BRITISH COLONIST.

Are our Taxes a Check to Colonization?

A correspondent in this issue would have it that taxes are so heavy here that they prevent the investment of capital; in other words, that our taxes drive capital away from the Colony, and thus check colonization. We believe this to be a very mistaken idea. In proportion to the value of labor here, in comparison with the value of labor in Great Britain, our taxes are not nearly so high as there. Here labor, on the average, is worth $3 a day at the lowest, and the taxes per head—allowing there are 4000 inhabitants in the Colony and the revenue £21,000—are $26 25. In reality, however, our taxes are not as high as this; for properly the £5000 and odd received by the Treasury this year for Crown land instalments would reduce the whole revenue to £16,000, or $20 a head. We cannot, even, fairly place the tax per head as high as this, for besides the sale of Government land, the proceeds of which go into the Treasury and are not taxes, there is the Post Office, Registrar of Deeds, and the Courts, which return a certain amount of revenue for a consideration given. And wherever a substantial consideration is given to an individual for his individual benefit, for the money he pays into a government, and as this substantial consideration is not enjoyed in common by the whole of the commonwealth, it cannot be regarded as given for taxes. There can, however, be no question as to the correctness of not considering the instalments on Crown lands as taxes, as the purchaser, and the purchaser alone, has his acres to show for his money. For the purposes of our argument we may fairly assume, then, that the tax per head to each individual inhabitant is under $20. But if we take $1 a day—which is far above the fact—as the average of labor in Great Britain, and the taxes per head at $15, then the taxes here, to be in proportion, ought to be $45 a head. It can, then, be plainly enough seen that taxes in this Colony are 125 per cent. lower than in Great Britain.

If we take a gold country like California, the taxes direct and indirect are much greater than they are here. There is first the famous Morrill tariff which levies an indirect tax on the consumer, which amounts on the average to over 50 per cent. on all imported goods which he consumes. Second there is the proceeds of public lands, $1 25 an acre, when they are only $1 an acre here. Third, there is the national income tax. These three sources of revenue all fall into the national treasury. Next is the State tax, the county tax, the city tax, which are devoted to the general and local purposes of the State. These three alone are far higher than our taxes. But if the State and national taxes of California are united the average per head is very considerably greater than it is here. We then justly claim that taxes are far lower here than in Great Britain, and much lower and less numerous than in California. We naturally enquire then, how such a charge can be laid on this colony, that our taxes check colonization?

We again repeat that it is a mistake that our taxes check colonization. But we see clearly enough how a capitalist may feel direct taxes here, or why he may refuse to invest. It can only occur in one case. The capitalist has $100,000 he would like to invest. He don't wish however to invest his money in available real estate. He don't wish to buy property which is improved and yielding a handsome percentage. He can do that elsewhere. But he wishes to purchase a large number of town lots on the outskirts of the town, at a very low figure, and then wait one or two years for it to increase in value. Such property would as a general thing be unproductive. Taxes would have to be paid on it annually; though no rent could be obtained. If the prospect of a large immigration was certain and immediate, so as to raise the value of lots an hundred to five hundred per cent. above cost, and that in one or two years, we would never hear of the taxes being too high, or taxes being a check to colonization. As the kind of property in which a capitalist would like to invest in, must in the nature of things be unproductive for several years, and during that time taxes and interest on taxes accumulate annually, he thinks it, better to invest in available real estate elsewhere, but gives as an excuse that the taxes check colonization. This is the only cause that we can conceive in which a capitalist would not realise in this colony high interest for his investment, whether invested in the purchase of real estate, loaned on mortgage, or advanced on good paper with or without collaterals.

It would certainly be a most unwise project to adopt—the exemption from taxes of capital invested in unproductive town lots. The consequence would be that every low priced lot would be snapped up by capitalists. They would in a few years monopolize the whole suburbs, and when required for business or residences would exact enormous prices in sale or rents, and very probably prove themselves absentee landlords. Whereas, if they pay taxes annually on their property according to its market value, they do something to redeem themselves from the unavoidable evil of centralizing the possession of real estate in a few hands instead of distributing it among the many.

Under the present system of taxation adopted here there can be no doubt that the taxes are not levied equally. Real estate has to pay more than its proportion, whilst personal property is nearly exempt. The Trades' License don't reach half the goods imported into the Colony; more than one-half are exempted from taxes, the returns not meeting the imports by half. The capitalist who does a banking business of a million of dollars annually does not pay taxes in proportion to his capital invested. The consequence is that a premium is offered here for the investment of capital in anything but real estate. But with all the disproportion between the taxes in real and personal property—and although the disproportion requires adjusting and the revenue to be more wisely appropriated—yet our taxes, in our opinion, offer no check whatever to colonization.

Rebel Barbarities.

The following instances of rebel outrage are related by the Louisville *Journal:*

We have conversed with an intelligent lady who was at Lexington, Missouri, when it was taken by Price, and she gives sickening details of the barbarities committed by the rebels. Among the prisoners taken was Dr. White, who was offered a pass by Price after the capitulation, with which he went about two miles beyond Richmond with Major Becker and Capt. Neat While at their dinner, a party, headed by the well-known desperadoes Charley Martin, Steve Emerson, and Ike Lightner, came up and took the officers off in a coach, but refused to let the Doctor, who was an old man, go with them, but he was subsequently taken one mile from the house into a by-path and there shot twice through the breast; he laid from Thursday till Tuesday, and when the inquest was held, the hogs had eaten all the flesh off the body except that which was protected by his boots. Two weeks after this fiendish murder, his wife, with our informant and a lad, went to Richmond and brought away his remains. Mrs. White, who is a niece of ex-Governor Desha, of this State, occupied a fine farm of about 500 acres, nearly all in a state of cultivation. The ruffians entered upon this, destroyed 100 acres of corn, 50 of oats, valuable peach and apple orchards, broke the cider machine, smashed the grandchildren's playthings, broke the windows with their bayonets, carried off the carriage and 16 horses, killed 17 head of cattle, 50 sheep and 100 hogs, and ripped up 9 feather beds in fiendish wantonness, leaving Mrs. White without a place to sleep on, and compelled her to borrow bedding for herself and family.

Theft, murder and the most shocking barbarities were practised by all the rebels from high to low. Mrs. Col. Grover, during the battle, took refuge on a boat for security, and her husband was wounded in the foot. She asked Gen. Price for her clothes, which he refused to surrender, leaving her and her child without change of raiment for many days, until he was about to commence his retreat. He then gave her an order to obtain her garments, but by this time every article of value had been stolen or destroyed. Nor were women the only objects of brutality: the wounded Union soldiers were not exempt. Some of them had been taken into a vacant house belonging to Major Blewitt, and, when he was made aware of the fact, he raved and stormed like a maniac, took an ax, threatened to chop off the head of a lad in the basement, and then hauled wounded men down the steps into the street, where they were exposed for many hours in the sun, with festering wounds.

U. G. F.—The members of this order resident in Victoria will be pleased to learn that the society is flourishing at Yale—as many as twelve members having been initiated in one night.

LONDON LETTER.

LONDON, Oct. 12, 1861.

"Nothing so difficult as a beginning," says Lord Byron—an axiom to which, at the present time, I (having but little to make a commencement out of) most cordially subscribe. We have been lately living in the midst of such tremendous events, crowding upon each other with so much rapidity that public attention is not easily satisfied with ordinary occurrences. As during the great war people were disappointed if they did not read or hear every morning of a great victory in the Peninsula or of the capture, burning and destroying of a hostile squadron, so now we need either an invasion of Austria or an expedition by Garibaldi, to prevent us from declaring with a yawn to Brown as we speed in the matutinal train or 'bus to business, "the papers are uncommonly stupid this morning." Even the unhappy war in the disUnited States fails to supply the necessary excitement. That "battle" which is always "imminent" has not yet come off, and for the present we have ceased to believe in the oft repeated cry of "wolf," "wolf."

ELECTION OF LORD MAYOR.

As far as the metropolis is concerned we have had the unusual excitement of a contest for the Lord Mayoralty. Such a thing as a contest under ordinary circumstances is never dreamt of. But on the present occasion it was gravely whispered that Sir H. Muggeridge, the Alderman next on the list, was not quite the man to worthily represent the city of London in the eyes of illustrious strangers whom the Great Exhibition of 1862 would necessarily bring to the metropolis. Still it may be doubtful whether such a cause would have been sufficient to have induced Sir W. Cubitt, the present Lord Mayor, to have put himself forward for a re-election without some greater honor or in contingency. Such a contingency was to be found in the custom of conferring a baronetcy on the Lord Mayor, when the Prince of Wales comes of age—the possibility of this will add no doubt to the ardor of the contest. However, as it is necessary to send up to the Court of Alderman two names for that august body to chose from, it was thought that if the two names, Sir H. Muggeridge and Sir W. Cubitt, were sent up the Court actuated by a desire to keep the beaten track might choose the former. To obviate this, Sir P. Laurie's name, in spite of a protest on his part, was added to the candidates, and in conjunction with Sir W. Cubitt's was returned by an enormous majority. As Sir Peter Laurie had declared his intention of not filling the office even if elected, Sir W. Cubitt was declared Lord Mayor for the coming year. Much bitterness was displayed on both sides, and a general impression prevailed that Sir H. Muggeridge had not met the fair treatment he had a right to expect. Of one thing, however, there was no doubt, and that is, that he was not the man fit to dispense the civic hospitalities in an extraordinary year, and so perhaps the matter has turned out for the best.

SPEECHES.

There is really so little to interest you in domestic affairs that I merely allude to the various speeches which have been made at different agricultural meetings, that you may understand what is engaging our thoughts at home. Two great questions seem to have absorbed the rhetorical powers of the various speakers: the unhappy war in the United States, and the supply of cotton to be obtained from India. On the latter question Lord Lyveden, at Northampton, delivered his soul, but only advanced the old arguments about the necessity of facilitating the transport of cotton in India to the coast. Captain Clive, at the dinner of the Ludlow Agricultural Association, also dwelt strongly upon the disastrous effects the war in America had already worked on our commerce, and insisted that we owed it to ourselves and to India to promote cotton cultivation in that country. The same tone pervaded the speech of Lord W. Graham at the Ledbury Agricultural Society. Speeches have also been delivered by the Duke of Newcastle at Nottingham, by Lord Wodehouse at Kimberley, and by Mr. Clay at Hull, eulogistic of the volunteers. Most of these speakers drew a lesson from the recent panic at Bull's Run, which they quoted as an example of how little could be done by even brave men without discipline, drill, and mutual confidence. Mr. Clay, however, attributed the disappearance of the periodical invasion panics, which disgraced England, to the formation of the volunteer corps. There is a rumor that in consequence of the efficiency of several of the volunteer battalions, a serious proposal for the reduction of the Regular Army is to be made to Parliament next year. Such a thing is quite possible, but is scouted by all men of sense. Colonel M'Murdo has already protested in a very short but able speech against it. Mr Lindsay delivered a lecture on "America and Americans" at the Mechanics Institute of North Shields, in which he vindicated the character of the Americans and defended the Southern States; insisted that the separation of the North and South was a necessity, and went even so far as to propose as a remedy for our present cotton difficulty that England should recognize the Confederate States. This last "notion" of the honorable member does not appear to have met with the approbation of the public.

REFORM.

In the midst of these serious questions you would think we had not much time to look after our own domestic wants. But you little know John Bull if you think so. We are threatened with a new Reform crusade, and Mr. Lindsay, the indefatigable, gives the first faint sound of it. In a recent speech to his constituents he dwelt upon the necessity of retrenchment and economy, and declared that these two desirable requisites were only to be obtained by a reformed House of Commons. Mr. Scholefield re-echoed the note at Birmingham, but declared that the present House of Commons was as very good in every respect that one fell inclined to ask, why then reform it? But these are only the faw premonitory growls. In a few days the thunder cloud is to burst at Newcastle, at a grand dinner to be given by the Reformers to Earl Russell. In spite of former defeats, and of his being practically shelved by his recent elevation to the Upper House, poor little Johnny must have his finger in the Reform pie, and indulge his vanity even at the hazard of thrusting a most fidgetting thorn into Lord Palmerston's side. Never was there a time when the nation cared so little for a Reform Bill. Frightened by what is happening in America, people here are not by any means inclined to play with such edged tools as universal suffrage and vote by ballot. Yet, notwithstanding this, Lord John, to keep his name in the mouths of men and to gain a little fleeting popularity, is about to revive a question now at rest, but which once roused will not be so easily lulled to rest again.

COTTON SUPPLY.

These, then, have been our principal topics for reflection during the last fortnight; but the cotton supply is the one which has, to the ousting of all the rest, kept a firm hold of the public mind. Day by day the fact is being realized that unless we get freen supplies of cotton our operatives must be without employment in the winter. Already the mills in Manchester and the other manufacturing districts of Lancashire and the West Riding are working only half time; a precautionary measure in which even the work people themselves have readily acquiesced. Can we get sufficient cotton from India to tide over the winter? that is the question, and no one answers it. * * *

QUARTER'S REVENUE.

While these difficulties stare us in the face we have another rather unpleasant fact in the decrease of the Quarter's Revenue. The returns for the quarter which has just expired show a nett decrease of £2,056,934, as compared with the corresponding period in 1860. There are special causes to account for the chief portion of this falling-off. There is a decrease, for example, of £1,290,000 in income tax. But it is to be observed, firstly, that the impost has been reduced from 10d. to 9d. in the pound; secondly, that last year two quarterly payments were levied in the September quarter; and, thirdly, that the unusually late period at which the vote was taken in the past session has considerably retarded the process of collection. In excise, again, there is a decrease of £368,000. But last year the Chancellor of the Exchequer availed himself of the mail credit, an operation which could not be repeated; moreover, the harvest of 1860 was specially disastrous as regarded malt and hops, the duties upon which commodities have been consequently less than usually productive. There is a decrease of £40,000 on stamps and of £6000 on taxes. The net decrease upon the 12 months amounts to £1,003,817. During the two remaining quarters we may expect a diminution of revenue from the reduction of the income tax of £500,000, and from the repeal of the paper duty of £700,000, so that, if there were no counterbalancing agencies at work, the national income would probably be about £2,200,000 less in 1861-2 than in 1860 1. This will be a very pretty condition of the public finances for Mr. Gladstone to put before the House in April next, especially as the abolition of paper duty was entirely his own doing.

Chain-Gang.

The S. F. *Monitor*, in speaking lately of the chain-gang, makes some very correct observations on the subject. We have often heard similar sentiments expressed here, where our chain-gang is more a means to harden criminals than to punish and reform them. The *Monitor* says:

The chain-gang is an institution against which the face and the hand of every humane person should be turned, and against which the voice of humanity protests. The *rationale* of punishment for crime should, by this day, have reached the accuracy of a mathematical proposition. But, yet in a country enjoying the fullest measure of civil liberty, and which, in its progress in every enlightened pursuit, has outrun the history of all humanities in ancient or modern times, we have that strange spectacle in our public streets—manacled humanity. The robber who lays in wait for property at the risk of life, is quietly consigned to the luxury of a suburban retreat. His brief probation over, he goes forth, recruited in health, reformed in morals, a stranger to all, save the few who witnessed his conviction and the mild execution of his sentence. But the miserable man without an ambition equal to the perpetration of a grand larceny; who is betrayed by want or by dissipation into the crime of idleness or the commission of a minor offence, is condemned to chains and servitude and the reproachful gaze of unfeeling multitudes in the public highways. If any hope existed for reformation the degradation crushes it out. The victim becomes wedded to evil ways; he knows the fruitlessness of attempting to obtain honest employment after serving in the chain-gang. He is punished with a severity which no other offender receives. We believe some discretion is now exercised by the Police Judge in dealing out this penalty, and for some time past but few public exhibitions have been made of the unfortunate wretches. The institution should, however, be removed from our midst, and one of the admitted objects of punishment, the reformation of the criminal, be no longer overlooked.

☞ A lady at Columbus inquired of the spirit rappers how many children she had. "Four," replied the spirit.

The husband, startled at the accuracy of the reply, stepped up and inquired, "how many children have I?"

"Two," answered the rapping medium.

The husband and wife looked at each other with an odd smile for a moment, and then retired, non-believers.

☞ The steamer Henrietta has been considerably lengthened at Laing's shipyard and will be launched in a few days and resume her trips on Fraser River.

Taxes a Check to Colonization.

If to carry consumable goods from the places where they are superabundant to those where they are scarce, is a good pecuniary speculation, is it not equally a good speculation to do the same thing with regard to labor and instruments? This is a question which has been already asked, and remaining unanswered, has been conceded. Why then, we ask, is the exportation of labor and capital from other countries to this prohibited—*virtually* prohibited—by the taxes imposed here? Several large capitalists have been, to my knowledge, turned away from investing their money in this colony—simply on the ground of the exorbitant taxation which exists. If this taxation produces so disastrous a result to our colony, what, we enquire—nay, we demand, what are the advantages (of course, we do not mean private advantages) gained by those public burdens? Private advantages, of course, we could point out, accruing to the heads of a heavy and almost useless official staff. It was a mistake in the Governor to surround himself (under the weak idea of adding to the dignity of his place) with office-bearers—needed only in a large and advanced colony such as Australia. But in a place like this, with but a handful of colonists in it, the Governor should have regarded himself simply as a large farming agent; and, tucking up his sleeves to the work, ought to have had working-men around him, and none others.

Still it would be unfair now for him to dismiss his staff, although it would be quite enough for him to keep one or two good accountants and a copying clerk to keep his correspondence in order. He is responsible to those gentlemen. They have been lifted, as regards the Colony, into a false position; and we have no doubt that the Colony, as dutiful children, accepting the visitation of the sins of their fathers upon it, will try to bear the infliction. We might, for instance, give them an equivalent in land to console them for the loss of office; but this Colony will not submit to a taxation which drives capital, labor, and improvements away from it; it will not submit to it, we say, without a peaceful, steady and constitutional struggle against it.

In proportion to the growth of a Colony is the power and importance of the House of Assembly representing the Colony, and in the same proportion decreases arbitrary and irresponsible rule, until at last the sphere of its operations lies hardly within the narrow limits of its official staff. Thus the policy which checks colonization, at the same time aids arbitrary rule; and the true inference from such a policy is: it has been dictated rather by a desire of holding undue power than in advancing the true interests of the people.

Moral and intellectual advantages are by this tax-protection-duty also sacrificed; commercial advantages are checked; literary advance is impeded. The improvements which always takes place between civilized nations from frequent intercommunication with those whose customs, experience and example differ from each other is hindered here by the anti-colonization policy which we deprecate, and which, while it injures every man in the colony, involves in ruin the permanent interests of civilization itself.

CAPITALIST.

EXTRAORDINARY MURDER IN BERLIN.—All Berlin has been talking of a most extraordinary murder, committed in a populous and well inhabited part of the city, or rather of that extramural adjunct to Berlin which has grown up on the south side of the Thier-Garten. A widow named Uphoff resided with two daughters in a house in the Bellevue Strasse. She had for a servant a woman named Ammon. On Sunday last she missed a bank note of 100 thalers, and suspected this woman of having taken it. Ammon did not live in the house, but in one of the banks of the neighboring canal, and thither, at six o'clock in the morning, Mrs. Uphoff went to herself and taxed her with the theft. What passed cannot be exactly known, but between 10 and 11 in the forenoon, while her daughters were anxiously expecting her return, one of the waiters at a coffee house on the canal bank heard a loud splash in the water, and proceeding to the place, saw Ammon, whom he knew, wheeling a hand cart before her. He ran after her and asked what she had thrown into the water. She denied having been to the canal, and the waiter was desisting from the inquiry, when a strange suspicion made him detain her. Search was made in the canal, and the body of Mrs. Uphoff was found, with marks on her throat, which left no doubt that she had been strangled. The body was enveloped in a covering, and Ammon had coolly wheeled it down to the canal in the broad light of the forenoon and turned it into the water. Such audacity resembles insanity, but there seems no reason to believe that she is mad. She was, of course, arrested, and after much search the missing note was discovered concealed in her hair. Mrs. Uphoff's hat and veil were found at the house of the murderess.

A BULL.—Yesterday the Swine and Goat Bill was under consideration at the House of Assembly, and one of the honorables seriously proposed, as an amendment to a certain clause, "that neither swine nor goats be allowed to run at large in the streets of Victoria *unless in charge of some person!*" The laughter of the honorable members brought the mover to his senses at once, and he subsided.

LIBEL SUIT.—It is reported that one of the two M. D.'s who have been pitching into each other through the public prints for a week or two past, has sued his antagonist for libel. The case, if it ever comes to trial, cannot fail in proving interesting.

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, December 17, 1861.

The Mason and Slidell Affair

Much anxiety exists to know how the Mason and Slidell affair will be received in England, and what action the Imperial Government will take in the matter. We presume that we will have nothing very definite on the subject for two weeks or a month. The national opinion expressed through the press will no doubt be heard within that period; but it is somewhat improbable whether we will hear what demand the Minister for Foreign Affairs will make on the Washington Government. But as some of our American cotemporaries on this coast have defended the deed of Wilkes, and others have attempted to quote international law to justify the seizure of Mason and Slidell, it may not be out of place if we were to take a glance at the law on the question. In the first place Great Britain found the United States in a state of civil war. The Southern States had formally dissolved all connection with the North; and with the exception of a few places on the borders of Southern territory, the North, as the representative of the Federal government, exercised no authority whatever. The Confederate government was really then the government *de facto*. Whilst this state of things existed Great Britain recognized the South as well as the North as a belligerent, and declared herself neutral; both acts she had a clear right to do. She was then bound to treat the South with the same impartiality as she did the North. She was bound to make no more difference in her neutrality in favor of either of the belligerents than she would if the belligerents had been Spain and Mexico instead of the Free States and the Slave States.

Having recognized the South as a belligerent, Great Britain by that act also recognized the right of the South to send a Minister abroad. The South acting on her undoubted right, did send a Minister to England. This Minister subsequently landed on British soil, at Bermuda. By that act, although he had not been recognized by the Government of Great Britain, he was entitled to her protection on his bare assertion of his mission, as much so as if his credentials had been presented and himself formally recognized among the foreign diplomatists near the Court of St James. The act of the Minister or Commissioner in taking passage on board a British steamer, did not deprive him of his right to the protection which the laws of nations extends to the sacred character of a Minister. But whilst on board the British steamer, Commodore Wilkes, in violation of the rights of a neutral flag, seizes him and Slidell. Now, the United States had a clear and unquestioned right, as a belligerent at war with the South, to stop the South from sending a Minister or Commissioner abroad, provided the Minister was found in a Confederate or Federal vessel, or within the territorial jurisdiction of either of the belligerent powers; still it had no right whatever, except what might makes right, to seize the persons of Mason and Slidell on board a neutral ship. Suppose Spain and Mexico were at war, and Spain had seized a Mexican Minister on board a British steamer, would not England be bound to make Spain deliver him up to his Government? There can be no doubt whatever on this question. Suppose the Confederate privateer Sumter had seized Adams, who was sent out by the Federal Government to England, whilst on board a Cunard steamer on his way to England. would not England have been bound to call the Confederates to account? The North in such a case would never think of justifying the seizure. But, as it is the North that profits by the seizure, in the Mason and Slidell case, an abortive attempt is made to justify it.

England, however, having recognized the Confederates as a belligerent power, is bound to act impartially. She cannot honorably allow the North to violate her neutrality at the expense of the South. She is bound to do justice to the South after recognizing it as a belligerent, or tarnish her own national honor. The assertion that the Confederates are rebels has nothing whatever to do with the question at issue, so far as England is concerned. She only knows them as a belligerent. If they were fighting for the whole Union instead of half, it would not make their case any better. If they denounced the North as rebels, and were waging war to conquer the whole North, and subject them to the Confederate constitution, still the South would be a belligerent—a belligerent at peace with England, recognized as such by England, and England as a just, and honorable and impartial neutral power, is bound by the law of nations to see that no injury is done a citizen of the Confederate States, and more particularly that no injury is done to a Confederate minister under the protection of her flag, without demanding full and ample compensation for the injury done. If England did not insist on satisfaction to the Confederates, the latter would be justified in declaring war against England.

Were any other doctrine to obtain than this, a declaration of neutrality would be a myth. Had a belligerent power the right to seize any one they called a political offender whilst under a neutral flag, it could do so on neutral soil, and thus one part of a nation engaged in civil war might break the peace of all nations, render life and property insecure, and the sovereignty of neutral nations worthless, wherever a rebel fled. Universal anarchy—disturbance—would prevail; and prevail because one nation was divided into two hostile sections at war with each other. The magnitude then of the offence committed by Wilkes may easily be seen; and how it becomes the interest as well as duty of all nations to condemn it.

THE DEVIL!—An Italian gentleman invited me, a few days since, to meet the devil. Yes, truly, to meet his satanic majesty, whom he had lately brought from Italy. On entering the room my attention was directed to a handsome carved and gilt confessional, on the upper panel of which was painted a head of our Saviour; the lower panel showing a painting of the cross. This piece of church furniture stands about six feet high, and appears to belong to the 16th century. It was lately discovered at a monastic establishment near Florence—one which the revolutionary events of the last few months has caused to be invaded by the civil authorities. The remarkable feature of the confessional consists in its internal mechanical contrivances. The priest who may be interrogating a sinner, and pointing to the panel representing the Saviour, has only to touch a spring, when the spring suddenly falls, and a figure representing the devil, the size of a man, falls forward. He is no chief of the fallen angels, such as Milton paints, but such a devil as Luther used to see. A horned, brown head, with large, round, protruding eyes, rolling fearfully; the tongue hanging out of the mouth, and made to move; a few tufts of negro-like hair; in fact, a monster. The hands are like the long-nailed claws of a quadruped. The body is boldly carved; in fact there is a sort of pronounced art treatment in the figure which makes one remember the Michel Angelo period of Italian art, although this example is simply rude. When the figure appears, a sort of internal rattling noise comes from the internal machinery. "One can imagine," said my Italian friend, "when the confessor wanted to find out some secret which he imagined the penitent at his feet was not likely to disclose, how he would first excite and then threaten, and finally let down the screen and make the devil extort what he wanted to know."

Earl Russell on Mexican Affairs.

Subjoined is the answer of Lord Russell to the memorial on Mexican affairs lately presented on behalf the British mercantile community. It is less hopeful (says the London *Times*) than might have been wished with regard to the possibility of a strong and respectable Government being established in that country, but in other respects it is sufficiently explicit;

FOREIGN OFFICE, October, 3, 1861.

GENTLEMEN:—I have received and considered with the greatest attention the memorial you have addressed to me.

You have described truly the evils which afflict Mexico, the robbery and the bloodshed, the impunity of crime, and the absence of any controlling authority in what is called the Government.

Her Majesty's Government have a right by treaty, and by all the laws which govern international relations, to require security for the persons and property of British subjects, and the performance of specific engagements on the part of Mexico.

Her Majesty's Government will exercise this right.

But Her Majesty's Government cannot think it wise to interfere in the internal government of Mexico. You seem to think that a protecting force thrown into Mexico for the simple purpose of maintaining public tranquility would succeed in attaining that object, and that even a small force would suffice for that purpose.

I am sorry to say that I think a very large force would be insufficient to restore public tranquility.

This is a task which the Mexicans must accomplish for themselves. There are very few cases in which foreign interference can be beneficial, and in those few cases there must be a large and numerous party in the country prepared to avail itself of foreign aid.

I am concerned to say that I see no proof of the existence of such a party in Mexico.

Her Majesty's Government, therefore, must confine their action to the clear and legitimate purpose of demanding from the *de facto* Government of Mexico, however constituted, respect for the persons and property of British subjects, and the fulfilment of recorded obligations.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

RUSSELL.

To Messrs. Rothschild & Sons, Messrs. Findlap, Hodgson & Co., and others.

IS HE A UNION MAN?—Hon. Benjamin Stark, Senatorial successor of the lamented Baker, who sailed yesterday for the East, in a conversation with a friend at his rooms, on the night previous to his departure, denied in indignant terms the allegation that he was a Secessionist. On the contrary, he asserted in the strongest terms, that he was for the Union, first, last, and all the time, and would never hesitate to vote for blood and gunpowder in its support; though admitting a big repugnance to Northern Abolition fanaticism. He said further, that he would cooperate in every act with the Pacific Congressional Delegation—having in view not only the good of the Pacific slope, but of the whole Union. We hope that his acts will verify his words.—*S. F Alta, 1st.*

SAN FRANCISCO SALARY LIST.—The amount paid by the city of San Francisco annually in the form of salaries, exclusive of the sums received by the employees in the Recorder's office, County Hospital, Industrial School and School Teachers, is $214,300. Including all the amount would swell up to $314,000, only $59,000 less than the State Government pays.

☞ A firm faith is the best theology; a good life the best philosophy; a clear conscience the best law; honesty the best policy; and temperance the best physic.

Nanaimo Port of Entry and Stipendiary System.

Some one anxious to extend the area of free-ports has written a letter to a cotemporary, purporting to come from Nanaimo, in which our remarks a few issues back are called in question. We are set down as stating that only three or four foreign vessels go annually to Nanaimo. If the writer took the trouble he might discover that the *three* or *four* had reference only to vessels going there *direct* from some foreign port. Direct voyages make all the difference in the world. That there may have been seventeen vessels there in eight months we have no doubt; but if foreign vessels, will the writer show a little more knowledge of the Nanaimo trade by telling us how many foreign vessels went there *direct?* We think that it will rather puzzle him to show more than three or four. In regard to the trade of Nanaimo being diminished by vessels stopping here to enter and clear, we would rather see facts in illustration than mere assertions. When we consider that a vessel can be earning freight on the inward and outward voyage by landing a cargo here first, it is not very probable that many vessels will go direct to Nanaimo San Francisco is the chief place to which coal is exported, and importers there study their own interests a little too well to send a vessel direct when they can land a cargo here which will diminish the freight on the return cargo of coal one-half.

We are told by this imaginative writer that nearly two hundred vessels arrive at Nanaimo annually. If the canoes had been included it is very probable; but when they are excluded from the port statistics, no more improbable story was ever hatched. So improbable that we have some doubts whether the writer ever was in Nanaimo. If a port of entry is necessary at Nanaimo, it can very readily be shown by statistics; and if it can be shown to be necessary, we shall give it every encouragement. But we have no idea whatever of countenancing the creation of offices merely to find places for idlers. At Nanaimo, there is one paid official too many already; and a port of entry, except the collector be paid in trifling fees, or does his work gratuitously, would only be an additional means of squandering public money. Quite a number of vessels arrive at Fort Rupert, and if government would only appoint a stipendiary magistrate there, the next step would be a port of entry, whether wanted or not. The inhabitants of Nanaimo, as well as the whole country, have to set their faces as a flint against the stipendiary system, whether magistrates or other understrappers in the outports. They have to oppose continuously all schemes which tend unnecessarily to eat up the public funds without leaving behind a substantial and visible *quid pro quo*. The £150 a year now paid at Nanaimo we regard as a waste of public money, which would be turned to a profitable account if expended on a road across the Cowichan country to connect with Victoria. It has been alleged however that there is but one person at Nanaimo qualified and willing to discharge the magisterial functions or fill a collectorship if it were made a port of entry. It is transparent why this nonsense is circulated—the object is to initiate and establish a salaried official system, although it is adverse to the previous history of Nanaimo as well as the colony.

Up to 1858, a salaried or stipendiary magistrate was unknown here. A few well educated gentlemen discharged the duty of magistrates. The same was done at Nanaimo. When the police court business accumulated a stipendiary magistrate was appointed here—not before. But without sufficient business at Nanaimo to employ a stipendiary magistrate, one has been appointed and the attempt is made to squirm out of the charge of useless expenditure, that there is no one there who will act as a magistrate. Will these wiseacres tell how it was that there was always a non-stipendiary magistrate there previous to 1861, if there was no one qualified? In connection with the Hudson Bay Company at Nanaimo there are some six or more well educated gentlemen, who could discharge the duties of magistrate or those of any other local office; there is a schoolmaster well qualified, and there are two clergyman. With nearly a dozen gentleman fit for magistrates, there is but one, is there? A rumor, however, is put in circulation that the Hudson Bay Company will not allow any gentleman in their employ to act as magistrate or anything else. Well this is a poser. If true, what patterns of propriety the Company have become at Nanaimo all of a sudden. Till 1861, the only magistrate there belonged to the Company. And just mark the contrast in the alleged Nanaimo policy of the Company and what obtains or has obtained elsewhere in the colony. In the Council and the Assembly, Hudson Bay Company's men are numerous enough, and in other offices. Is it not a queer idea then to exempt Nanaimo? When they retire from the distinguished posts they fill, we will concede consistency to the moonshine story, put in circulation by interested parties, and merely to keep up a paid official system in the country without any corresponding benefit. All outlying districts will have to do the same as they do in other well-regulated colonies, have magistrates, postmasters, collectors, etc., appointed from among the resident population, paid by a few small fees for the amount of work done; but not for work never done, or for nothing.

From British Columbia.

The steamer Otter, Capt. Mouat, arrived from New Westminster at 5 o'clock Sunday evening, with 100 passengers. The amount of gold dust aboard is estimated at $75,000.

The schooner Endeavor arrived at New Westminster on the 5th, discharged cargo, and cleared for Nanaimo on the 8th.

The steamer Moody made her trip from New Westminster to Hope and Yale and back inside of forty-two hours, making fifteen landings, and discharging nearly ninety tons of goods. This is said to be the best time ever made on Fraser River.

There is much snow on the Bonaparte River, and it is predicted that many of the animals wintering there will perish.

The river is free of ice and has raised some four or five feet.

The Moody has gone to Douglas and will return on Wednesday.

A report is current that a new creek has been found at Cariboo, and quite a number of miners have gone up in the last eight days.

There is snow on the ground from Harrison River up. No goods have yet gone through the cañons.

No Express came from Lillooet by the Otter.

Mr. Smith and several others arrived at Hope from Rock Creek and Okanagan.

Governor Douglas is at New Westminster and has granted the Hospital Committee of that place the use of the funds collected under the Head Tax proclamation.

The following items are from the *British Columbian:*

On Saturday last, Capt. Burgess, of the Endeavor, was brought up before Judge Brew, on a charge of having beaten and abused a dog in a most wanton and cruel manner, and the charge having been sustained, he was fined ten dollars. He was also charged by his mate with having threatened the lives of himself and one of the men, and otherwise ill-treating them, which having been proved, he was required to give bonds to keep the peace.

The Archdeacon and Attorney General are building residences at New Westminster.

We understand Mr. Trutch has been obliged to discontinue work upon the Pemberton Portage for the season, leaving that portion of the road unfinished which passes a flat, to which we referred some time ago, and which is about a mile and a half long. Unless this piece of road can be completed before the freshets next season, traffic on that route will be stopped, as the flat over which the trail passes at present is quite impassable at that season.

MAGISTRATES IN A "FIX."—A short time since a medical man was called in to attend a prisoner in the lock-up in the Abbeydore district, and expressed his opinion of the ventilation of the cell in a very significant manner—viz., by poking his umbrella through one of the panes of glass. At the next meeting of the district magistrates, our new county surveyor brought the defective ventilation of the cells before the magistrates, and, as a practical test, it was deemed expedient that the magistrates should inspect the cells. For this purpose they proceeded to one of the cells, but as it was thought the test would be worthless unless the door was closed, that operation was performed, when, to the consternation of the gentlemen inside, it was discovered there was no means of opening the closed door. The result was that the magistrates, notwithstanding their pommelling and beating at the door with very commendable activity, had to suffer incarceration for a couple of hours before the arrival of an officer who could release them. We can only hope that the worthy gentlemen will be able to give a very satisfactory report as to the state of ventilation in the cell.—*Hereford Times.*

"YOU MEAN SOMETHING."—Some years ago there loafed about the Red Sweet Spring in Virginia, a reduced F. F. V, who having sinned beyond endurance, was escorted out of the region on a rail. He took refuge at the White Sulphur Springs, and on his arrival found Frank Eagle, the clerk, listlessly sawing on a fiddle.

"Give us a tune, Frank," said he.

"What will you have, Jim?"

"Oh, anything."

Frank happened to strike upon the then popular air of "Sittin' on a Rail." He played it once, and then out of sheer devilment began to saw it over again.

"Look 'ee, Frank,' said Jim, fidgeting in his chair, "you mean something."

Frank assured him that he didn't and awed on. But Jim couldn't stand it.

"I know you mean something," said Jim, "and you are a mean ouss to throw a thing up in that way," whereupon Jim left in "high dudgeon."

Frank couldn't understand the nub of the thing till a few days after, when he heard of the rail-riding affair.

UNFAILING RECEIPTS.—The following receipts are said never to fail: To destroy rats: catch them one by one, and flatten their heads in a lemon squeezer. To kill cockroaches: get a pair of heavy boots, then catch your roaches, put them in a barrel, and get in yourself and dance. To catch mice. On going to bed put crumbs of cheese in your mouth, and be with it open, and when a mouse's whiskers tickle your throat, bite.

☞ The Rev. Dr. Mason, on New York, passing up Broadway, stopped to read a theatrical placard which attracted his attention. Cooper, the tragedian, coming along, said to him:

"Good morning, sir—do ministers of the gospel read such things?"

"Why not, sir?" said the doctor; "ministers of the gospel have a right to know what the devil is about as well as other people."

The Voice of France.

The Paris *Journal des Debats* has recently had an elaborate article on our national affairs of the most gratifying character. It closes as follows:

We also have an important part to play. We are something to the United States by the souvenirs which we have left there. The last time that France appeared in America was for the purpose of there defending a liberty which was menaced. England was then its enemy. Germany furnished those detested Hessians who fought for the House of Hanover. Lafayette, Rochambeau, the two Lameths and Matthew Dumas, fought at Yorktown, and our flag floated there by the side of the Star-Spangled Banner.

Since that epoch, so glorious for the two countries, France has remained the sister of America. There is a noble heritage which we must not repudiate. Let us be careful, that in the name of industry—that is to say, for a temporary advantage, or possibly even from simple motives of commercial ambition—we are not made to renounce that which is most precious to any people. To encourage the Southern States, to be pushed to a premature recognition of them, to interfere in their quarrel in favor of servitude, to link our name with the maintenance of slavery, this would be to falsify our past. In America, as elsewhere, France can only be the ally of liberty.

The South may possibly succeed in its fatal enterprise. It may possibly conquer a separation which will only precipitate its ruin. It has upon its side the superiority which, at the commencement of a war, an audacious, resolute and intelligent aristocracy, habituated to the use of arms, always possess. It may gain its independence in a single battle. I do not believe it, however, and have great confidence in the honest and laboring population of the North and West. But, whatever the future may bring forth, it will be time enough to recognize the South when secession shall be *un fait accompli*. We can then negociate with the new republic. Commerce knows no enemies. But our true ally will always be the people, who, in 1776, proclaimed that every human being had a right to liberty, the people who have remained faithful to the glorious traditions of Washington.

A MODEL SENTINEL.—An anecdote is related of one of the citizen soldiers in the expedition of the Macpherson Blues against the insurgents in 1798, which is worthy of being recorded. The person referred to was a German by birth, of the name of Koch, and was well known, in his day, as a large outdoor underwriter. He died some twenty years since in Paris, whither he had gone for the benefit of the climate, leaving a fortune estimated at $1,000,000. Koch was a private in the Macpherson Blues. It fell to his lot one night to be stationed sentinel over a baggage wagon. The weather was cold, raw, stormy and wet. This set the sentinel mosing. After remaining on post half an hour, he was heard calling lustily:

"Corporal of der guartz! Corporal of der guartz!"

The corporal came, and inquired what was wanting.

Koch wished to be relieved for a few minutes, having somethiog to say to Macpherson.

He was gratified, and in a few minotes stood in the presence of the general.

"Well, Mr. Koch, what is your pleasure?" asked MacPherson.

"Why, general, I wish to know what may be der value of dat wagon over which I am shentinel?"

"How should I know, Koch?"

"Well," something approximative—not to be bartiular."

"A thousand dollars, perhaps."

"Very well, General Macpherson, I write a check for der money, and den I will go to beds."

☞ A son of Erin once accosted a reverend disciple of Swedenborg thus: "Mr. ——, you say that we are to follow the same business in Heaven that we do in this world?"

"Yes, that is in perfect accordance with reason; for the creator himself is not idle, and should his creatures be?"

"Well, then, yer honor, do the people die there?"

"Certainly not, for they are as immortal as the Creator himself."

"Then I should like to know, yer honor, what they'll find for me to do, for I am a grave-digger in this world?

It is hardly necessary to say that the reverend gentleman was completely nonplussed and discharged Pat without giving him the required information.

BUSINESS IN NEW YORK.—An extract from a private letter, dated at New York, November 5th, says that "most of the merchants of that and other Northern cities have recovered from the first revulsion occasioned by the breaking out of the rebellion, and are now transacting a heavy and lucrative business. All of the public highways of transport are tasked to their utmost capacity to bear the teeming products of the interior to their seaboard. But the close of navigation will find vast quantities of freight unforwarded. The daily average of wheat transported upon the Erie canal alone amounts to 200,000 bushels: corn, 100,000 bushels; and flour, 30,000 barrels.

LARGE SALARIES.—The Presidents of the Mutual Marine Insurance Companies of New York receive princely salaries. The President of the Atlantic Mutual receives $25,000 a year, the President of the Sun Mutual $15,000, of the Great Western $10,000, and the Presidents of the two leading Fire and Life offices receive $10,000 each. The salaries of the Bank Cashiers vary from $4000 to $5000.

WILL NOT DRAFT.—Governor Downey, of California, has authorized the contradiction of a rumor circulated in San Francisco, to the effect that he contemplated ordering a draft for the militia of the State for the filling up of the regiments called for by the Government. No such idea has been entertained.

DEATH OF AN ACROBAT.—The renowned gymnast and acrobatic performer, Angelo Chiarini, died yesterday morning, in consequence of injuries sustained by falling from the tight rope at Hayes' Park Pavilion on Thanksgiving day.—*San Fran. Alta, 1st.*

NEGRO MAGISTRATE.—John S. Rock, a colored man, recently of the Boston bar, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the county of Suffolk, Massachusetts, by the abolition Governor.

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, December 17, 1861.

The Gold Escort—Mails.

The Gold Escort experiment between New Westminster and the Forks of Quesnelle has proved a failure. How it could prove anything else, we never could understand. In the first place there is foundation for the opinion that it was premature. Whatever effect that may have had in disbanding the Escort, it is certain that other causes had a far more direct influence in exploding the experiment. One main, perhaps the chief cause in causing the Escort to prove a failure, was the non-insurance of the safe delivery of the gold entrusted to its care. Very large amounts of gold would have been forwarded from Cariboo had it not been for this. Miners preferred to bring down their own gold rather than pay a shilling an ounce and run the risk of robbery in the bargain. Only two trips were made by the Escort, and the whole amount of gold brought down did not exceed twenty-five hundred ounces—a mere bagatelle in comparison with the total amount brought down in the hands of miners. The percentage paid the Escort for transmission did not probably exceed six hundred dollars, whereas the outlay and expense attendant must have been somewhere about £2000. Such a result as this indicates nothing but a lamentable failure. It is a practical lesson on the loss side of the ledger that will render the Government Assay Office at New Westminster a rather unprofitable institution. To have made the Escort pay, it should have been conducted similar to Express Companies. Whatever treasure was placed in its charge, the delivery should have been guaranteed at its destination. The arrangements ought to have been on such a scale as to render the transmission of the treasure safe, and expeditious also. We have always been under the impression that the Escort would not succeed; nor no public Escort can succeed except it is able to compete with private enterprise.

Between the Treasury and the Executive of British Columbia they have managed to get rid of a nice little amount of the public funds, without much to show for it. The lesson thus taught will no doubt have the effect of leaving the transmission of gold dust next season from Cariboo to this place entirely to private enterprise We had hoped against conviction that the experiment might have been a successful one; but as there is little hope of its resurrection, the next thing is provision for the mails. The want of regular and speedy mail communication between this city and the Forks of Quesnelle, or some other central distributing point in the Cariboo country, has been much felt this year. Next season the inconvenience will be far greater, if no mail route is established between these points. Throwing the letter business entirely into the hands of expressmen would be too great a tax on the country. Two and three dollars each have been paid for letters this year sent over the route. A dollar, at the lowest, will in all probability be the express charge next year. Newspapers will be a dollar to a dollar and a half each. The tax, then, will be enormous on the miners and traders in the upper country, or upon their correspondents or families here. Heavy letter postage tends to stop correspondence; whereas light postage stimulates correspondence. Possibly five cents postage on letters to Cariboo may be low at the present time, but even ten cents on a letter weighing a half ounce would be far preferable to paying a dollar. And as it is very desirable that the miners should send below as much correspondence as possible to circulate intelligence of their success, with the character of the country, we can perceive no better means to further such an object in common with the general convenience of the entire public, than the early establishment of a mail route to Cariboo. A weekly mail, at the very least, ought to be established between Victoria and Antler Creek as soon as the snow is off the road. A longer time than a week between these points would be too long. The number of people who will be interested in the route will make a longer period inconvenient.

The distance between Portland and Sacramento is seven hundred miles, and the schedule time for conveying the mail the whole distance is seven days. The distance between here and Cariboo is not quite two-thirds as long, with no greater obstacles to impede the mail, hence the traveling time in proportion ought not to be more than five days, but a week is ample time. It may be urged that the expense would be too great were a weekly mail established. We confess that we do not see much force in such an objection. The only guarantee that we require is that letters and newspapers be transmitted over the route once a week regularly, and we are satisfied, it will prove a much better paying institution than the gold Escort. If a small loss be made, the public accommodation will more than counterbalance the loss.

☞ The Portland *Times* says that Tracy & Co.'s Express, during the six days ending on the 4th inst., purchased over 2000 pounds ($400,000) of gold dust from the Salmon River mines.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 11.

THE LATE HORRIBLE MURDER.—The body of Thomas Holmes, late stoker on board H. M. S. Topaze, whose inhuman butchery by Cowichan Indians has been noted in our columns, was given to his friends by Coroner Dickson yesterday, and taken to Esquimalt, where we presume it was interred in the naval burying ground. Deceased was one of the steadiest men belonging to the Topaze; he was 35 years of age and a native of Plymouth, England, where he leaves a wife and family. His untimely end is greatly deplored by his messmates, whose feelings are very much embittered against the redskins generally by the occurrence. It is pretty well settled, to the satisfaction of the police, that the murderer, a Cowichan named Kla-ek, the father of whom is Sim-i-lah, now serving out a sentence for murdering one of their own tribe in a barbarous manner last summer. It is conjectured that the motives which led to the commission of the deed were either revenge on the King George men for the imprisonment of his father, or a desire to possess the deceased's clothes. The latter was most likely the ruling motive. There were doubtless others besides Kla-ek concerned in the crime, and no one believes for a moment that the hands of the Indian already in custody (and who will probably be the principal witness for the prosecution) were not also imbued in the blood of the victim. Kla-ek was arrested about 7 o'clock last evening, at a house on Store street, by Superintendent Smith and officer Blake, and locked up for the night.

THE SACRAMENTO INCENDIARY.—Mr. Dennes, solicitor, in the Police Court yesterday, made application for the liberation on bail of Stephen Casserly *alias* Johnny McDuff, a fugitive from California justice, who was arrested here on a requisition from the Governor of that State on Friday last. The bail bonds were originally fixed by Mr. Pemberton at $500 from outside parties and himself in a like amount. Acting Superintendent of Police Smith opposed the application; made oath that Mr. Gay, the Sacramento detective who made the arrest, had gone to Olympia to procure a requisition from the Governor of Washington Territory, and since the prisoner's arrest it had been ascertained that by the fire which it was alleged accused had been instrumental in causing, two lives were lost. He was also known as a suspicious character and had passed under several different names; and would doubtless abscond if liberated on the small amount of bail asked. The amount of bail fixed for his appearance in California was $5000. Mr. Pemberton accordingly decided to double the amount of the bonds required, and said he would take any two responsible parties who were known to be respectable as sureties for the appearance of the accused.

STEAM SASH AND DOOR FACTORY.—The large frame building in course of erection near the corner of Wharf and Government streets, will be devoted to the uses of a steam sash and door factory, from which blinds, mouldings, sashes, doors, boxes, etc., will be turned out, and every description of work required by carpenters performed. Nearly every article which it is proposed to manufacture at this factory is now imported from San Francisco or the East, and the value of these imports have averaged for the past year from $1000 to $3000 per month. The price of lumber is so low that it has been ascertained that the work can be done here as cheaply as at the East, and responsible parties having interested themselves in the enterprise, the factory will soon be in operation. The machinery arrived on the I. B. Lunt a few days ago. Messrs. Stevens & Co. are the proprietors. The rear of the building rests near the water's edge, and it is the intention of the owners to construct a commodious wharf on which lumber may be landed from vessels. We look upon the undertaking as very creditable to the parties concerned therein, and trust that it may meet with all the success which it merits.

THE "IONIA."—Messrs. Pickett & Co. procured this bark about 80 tons of freight—such as hides, bottles, etc.—and purchased about 200 tons of coal, which are now being taken in at the Hudson Bay Co.'s wharf. This arrangement gives the Ionia a decided advantage over vessels that have proceeded to Nanaimo for cargoes—the time saved fully compensating for the difference in price. Nanaimo coal is in demand at San Francisco, and commands a paying figure.

ARRIVAL OF THE "EMILY HARRIS."—This steamer arrived at 6 o'clock last evening from New Westminster with fifteen passengers and $37,000 in gold dust. The weather on the river is very severe. Much snow has fallen, and work on the trails has been suspended in consequence. Capt. Court reports a scarcity of flour, beef, and potatoes at New Westminster.

DRUNKS.—Two drunk and disorderly individuals, one for kicking up shindies on the Hudson Bay Company's Wharf, and the other for performing like feats at one of the squaw dance-houses, were each fined 5s. at the Police Court yesterday.

☞ The bark Prince of the Seas, from London, anchored in Royal Bay last evening.

THE SURVEYING STEAMER "HECATE."—H. M. surveying steamer Hecate, Captain Richards, yesterday morning entered this harbor for the first time, and anchored near the Labouchere. We understand that she has gone into winter quarters.

☞ Alfred Waddington, Esq., has been appointed Treasurer of the Firemen's Charitable Fund.

☞ The Brother Jonathan, Capt. Burns, will be the next steamer to arrive from California.

☞ The cabin of the schooner Victoria Packet was robbed of $90 by some unknown parties, on Tuesday night.

☞ A portion of the cargo of the Prince of the Seas consists of apparatus for the gas company.

☞ Governor Douglas departed for New Westminster yesterday morning.

THURSDAY, Dec. 12.

SUPREME COURT.—The Chief Justice yesterday gave a decision disallowing Mr. Ring's petition to amend the plaintiff's answer in the Albert Head Sawmill case. Mr. Ring then proceeded to carefully and minutely examine the evidence, and contended that the bill filed was substantially for the same purpose for which the ejectment was brought. The Ejectment proceeded on an alleged forfeiture for non-payment by defendant Duncan on the conditions of the agreement. The learned Counsel referred his Honor to the evidence and his own notes on the trial of the Ejectment, and he would there find that the grounds of the Ejectment was total forfeiture of the premises: First—For non-payment of the instalments. Second—In not insuring. Third—For not delivering the lumber as agreed. By comparing this with the prayer of the present Bill his Honor would find that he is now substantially trying the same case under the column of a Bill in Equity. That the jury on the ejectment trial having found a verdict for defendant decided that there was no forfeiture on the alleged grounds. Mr. Ring had not concluded his argument when the Court was adjourned until to-day.

GAS.—The whole of the Gas Company's apparatus did not arrive on the Prince of the Sea. The Pruth and Salamander each have portions aboard. The Pruth is fully due having sailed from London on the 19th of last June. The Salamander was loading at latest advices, and will call at the Sandwich Islands.

THE "PRINCE OF THE SEAS."—This vessel laid at anchor outside yesterday, but it is expected will come in at high water this morning. She is consigned to Messrs. Henderson & Burnaby, and has a large and well assorted cargo on board. The time consumed on the voyage from London was 190 days, a good run, considering the rough weather encountered.

ALLEY-WAY.—A narrow alley has been opened through the Johnson estate property from Yates to Johnson street. It will answer very well as a continuance of Langley alley, and will prove a great public convenience.

☞ Casserly, *alias* McDuff, the Sacramento (Cal.) incendiary has not procured the necessary bail, and is still confined in prison.

☞ The bill for the extension of the provisions of the Gas Company's Act has passed the Council.

FRIDAY, Dec. 13.

ARRIVAL OF THE SCHOONER "TOLO."—The schooner Tolo, Capt. Maloney, arrived here from San Francisco at 9½ o'clock on Wednesday night, making the passage in 9 days, having left on the evening of the 1st. As the Tolo left the harbor of San Francisco, she met the bark N. S. Perkins, Bunker master, putting back for repairs, she having come in contact with an unknown vessel. The Perkins lost foretop-mast, head of the foremast and bowsprit, and was otherwise badly damaged. The Tolo has had heavy S. E. and S. W. gales the whole passage; carried away fore-gaff, sprung top-mast, &c; entered the Straits on the 9th since then has had light head winds. The schooner has a cargo of about 225 tons, valued at $22,000 and consigned to Messrs. Pickett & Co.

FAIR.—The Ladies' Social Aid Society will hold a Fair at Moore's Music Hall, Yates street, commencing on Friday morning, the 20th inst., at 10 o'clock, and continue during the day and evening. The proceeds of the Fair will be appropriated to the purchase of an organ for the Wesleyan Methodist Church of this city. The Hon Capt. Spencer and officers of H. M. S. Topaze have kindly placed the band at their disposal for the occasion. A great variety of articles and refreshments will be offered for sale. Tickets of admission, fifty cents; children half price.

DEPLORABLE.—A respectable looking young man, who has several times been before the Police Magistrate on a charge of drunkenness, was again in the prisoner's dock yesterday on a like charge. He was reprimanded for his conduct and cautioned that if again brought up he would be punished as a vagrant. A fine of 5s. was imposed, and not having the needful wherewith to pay the same, he was escorted to jail to sweat it out in a cell.

JEM MCALLISTER.—This amusing specimen of an old *matelot*, whose queer antics and sayings in the Police Court on Wednesday created so much merriment, was brought before the magistrate yesterday for punishment; but Jem had succeeded in regaining his senses—albeit, the whisky had evaporated and left him, instead of the fierce bully of the day before, as gentle as a sucking dove, and so with tears in his eyes he made an humble and pretty apology for his outrageous conduct, which was accepted by Mr. Pemberton and he was discharged. As one of his messmates testified, Jem is a good man, and when he does get in trouble its "all along o' a drop o' drink." We hope his narrow escape from a severe penalty will prove a lesson to to him in future.

MCDUFF ALIAS CASSERLY.—This young man, arrested as a refugee from justice, is still confined in prison. The doubling of the bail did the business for him, and deterred his friends from coming forward to take him out. Mr. Gay, the Sacramento detective, is expected to return to-day with a requisition from the Governor of Washington Territory, in which case no bail will be allowed.

SATURDAY, Dec. 14.

MAN DROWNED—NARROW ESCAPES.—The schooner Victoria Packet, Capt Dolholt, left here on Thursday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, for Salt Spring Island and Nanaimo, having on board seven passengers and some freight. The wind was blowing a gale at the time and the captain was so much under the influence of liquor as to be incapable of taking care of the Packet, and command virtually devolved on a young man known as Charley, who kept at the helm until the vessel was off Clover Point, when Dolholt insisted on steering. After a few words of expostulation Charley gave up the helm and was walking toward when his foot tripped (it is supposed) over a coil of rope and he was precipitated headlong into the water and almost instantly sank. He was only heard to cry once. The captain lowered the boat as soon as possible and started to pick the man up, leaving his vessel and its human freight to the mercy of the winds and waves. After some time, and by dint of hard work and an unexpected turn of good fortune, the passengers succeeded in running the Packet into a cove near Ross' Farm and dropping anchor. A canoe belonging to Superintendent of Police Smith (who was in that vicinity on a hunt for cattle thieves) was sent from the shore and the passengers taken off. Soon afterwards Capt. Dolholt arrived at the cove, reported Charley drowned, and insisted on continuing the trip to Salt Spring Island; but only two of the passengers consented to accompany him, and the remaining five trudged into town late on Thursday night. When last seen, the schooner was scudding before a gale with her drunken captain at the helm. Whether any mishap befel her afterwards is not known.

SETTLED AT LAST.—The momentous question, what is to be done with the Victoria Market property? has been settled at last. Yesterday we observed a number of carpenters at work siding up half-a-dozen of the stalls, and on inquiring the object, were informed that they were building a dance-house. That settles the question at last, and we are glad of it. Half the people in town have been racking their brains over it for a month past. Some asserted that it was to be turned into a barracks for the accommodation of that mythical regiment of soldiers which has been "coming" here ever since '55; and others said that it would make a fine lunatic asylum in which to confine the persons holding shares in it. But it seems that they were all at fault, as Madame Terpsichore has hired the building herself at $45 a month rent.

SUPREME COURT — BAYLEY VS. COX.—This case has been alluded to in our columns on several occasions, and resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed. An execution having been put into the defendant's house for the debt and costs, an application was made by the Sheriff (as high bailiff) to estoppel, in consequence of Mr. Foley having made claim to the goods seized. Mr. Dennes appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Ring and Mr McCreight for Mr. Foley. In support of the claim a deed was put in, which had no connection whatever with Mr. Foley. Mr Dennes objected to the reception of the deed, on the ground that the plaintiff had been brought into Court solely by the notice of Mr. Foley, who should have supported his claim. A long discussion ensued and his honor directing an issue to be tried by a jury to ascertain whether the goods seized by the Sheriff were at the time of seizure the property of the defendant.

THE "TENTED FIELD."—The members of the chain-gang in rainy weather are to be covered with a tent of ample dimensions, while at work out of doors. Heretofore the plan has been to give the gang a holiday whenever the rain fell, but during the extraordinary wet weather we have been blessed with recently it was thought they were having too jolly times altogether, and so the tent was procured. We hope we shall never have occasion to say of them that they "folded their *tent* like the Arabs and silently *stole* away."

☞ The bark Ionia, hence for San Francisco on Thursday, carried an express and late Victoria papers.

THE LAND SALE.—Yesterday, Mr. Cochrane sold a number of sections of land on which instalments were due, situated in Esquimalt, South and North Saanich, Metchosin, Lake, and Sooke Districts. In Esquimalt District, about 550 acres were sold, at prices ranging from the upset price ($1) to $2 25 per acre. In South Saanich, 580 acres were sold, at from $1 to $2 80 per acre. In North Saanich, 420 acres, at $2. In Metchosin, 767 acres, from $1 05 to $2. In Lake, 539 acres, from $1 to $1 90. In Sooke, 717 acres, from $1 to $2 25. The attendance was not numerous and the bidding anything but spirited. No actual settler's property was disturbed, an extension of time having been granted in such cases on Thursday. The net receipts of the auction will reach, in round numbers, $5,200.

NEW STEAMER.—We learn that Captain Grain, long and favorably known from his connection with the steamer Caledonia, left on the last steamer for San Francisco for the purpose of chartering or building a suitable steamer to run between this port and New Westminster.

ARRIVAL OF THE "ENTERPRISE."—The steamer Enterprise arrived from the Sound at 11 o'clock yesterday morning with a light freight and a few passengers. She left at 1 o'clock in the afternoon for Olympia and way-ports. We are indebted to Purser Finch for the usual favors.

DIED AT THE HOSPITAL.—Charles Tidberry, a native of Nottingham, England, and aged 48 years, died at the Royal Hospital on Wednesday and was buried the next day. His complaint was consumption.

INDIAN CUT.—Yesterday a white man, whose name is at present unknown, drew the blade of a sheath-knife across an Indian's face, at a saloon on Johnson street, inflicting quite a gash. A warrant was issued for the man's apprehension.

LECTURE.—The sixth lecture of the Victoria Literary Institute will be delivered on Monday evening, 23d inst., by Rev. Mr. Macfie, of the Fort street Congregational Church. Subject: "Popular Delusions."

NO COURT.—No Police Court was held yesterday, greatly to the disappointment of the numerous hangers-on and the reportorial fraternity.

NO MAIL.—The state of the road is such that no mail now arrives at Olympia. Consequently we received nothing later by the Enterprise yesterday.

☞ The steamer Otter is due to-day from Fraser River.

☞ The schooner Tolo commenced discharging cargo yesterday on Union Wharf.

☞ The Emily Harris is on the beach at Scorgie & Laing's undergoing slight repairs.

MONDAY, Dec. 16.

THE THEATRE.—We regret that we cannot compliment the performances at this place of amusement for the past week. On every evening at least two and sometimes more than half of the actors have been so notoriously deficient in their *roles* as to richly merit a public mark of disapprobation. We have no desire to be censorious; and we are actuated by none but the best of feelings towards the troupe when we advise its members to pay more attention to their business in future. The newspapers can always assist materially a creditable company; but no amount of "puffing" will ever secure it a decent support if the members are too lazy to perfect themselves in their *roles*. We shall be most happy to note an improvement during the coming week.

A SLIGHT ROW AT THE THEATRE.—Ever since the arrival of the present company there has been a strong under-current of feeling at work in the apple and peanut department of the theatre, which on Saturday night culminated and resulted in the arrest of one Thomas Cooper for striking D. Kaufman. It seems that in June last Kaufman for fifty dollars purchased from J. S. Potter the exclusive privilege of selling apples and peanuts to the "gods" who from time to time visit that establishment—a privilege he enjoyed, down to the return of Mr. Potter from San Francisco, when he was told that another man had bought the right, and was advised if he wished his features to retain their present symmetrical proportions not to attempt to supply his former customers with the "necessaries of life" at the theatre. Being a brave man, Kaufman turned a deaf ear to the advice thus offered, and on the opening night appeared at the door as usual with a basket of "Oregon's best" on one arm and a basket of "fresh roasted" on the other. He was refused admittance, but insisted on his right to enter—a brief struggle ensued—might triumphed over right—apples and peanuts met with a fall, and, as a grand *tableau*, Kaufman was expelled from the house, *minus* his merchandise and a lock or two of hair. Every night since that memorable occasion has Kaufman, with an indomitable perseverance worthy of a Napoleon, presented himself at the theatre door with his baskets, but on each occasion has he met with a reverse until last Saturday night, when he slipped by the door-keeper and exhibited himself to the eyes of the delighted "gods" in the pit, who hailed the entrance of their old *tilicum* with rapturous applause. But his triumph was short-lived. One Thomas Cooper, a perfect

Hercules and an *attachee* of the establishment, grabbed him by the collar and was on the point of ejecting him when policeman Blake rushed in, rescued Kaufman from the nervous grasp of Cooper, and in turn took the latter to the station-house, from which he was soon after liberated on bail to appear before Mr. Pemberton this morning. Kaufman peddled apples and peanuts for the remainder of the evening unmolested.

Bogus Gold Dust.—A man named William Grant, on Saturday evening, tried to cheat Mr. Solomon, clothier, of Yates street, by selling him brass filings for gold dust. Grant entered Solomon's just before candle-light and asked if he wished to buy a small quantity of gold dust, at the same time exhibiting a purse containing what would appear to an inexperienced observer as about fifty dollars' worth of oro. But Solomon is too old a bird to be caught with such chaff. He saw the man had brass in his face, and he rightly concluded that he had a quantity of the same metal in his fist. So he quickly sent for officer Blake and gave Grant into custody.

Nanaimo.—The schooner Carolena, Jones master, arrived from Nanaimo on Saturday morning with a cargo of coal to R. Brodrick. The Victoria Packet was seen off Saanich by Capt. Jones on Friday. The harbor of Nanaimo presents a very lively appearance. The barks Retriever and Naramissic, brig I. B. Lunt, and schooner Endeavor were loading with coal on Thursday last. The ship Huntsville is loading at Newcastle Island. The new shaft is down six fathoms. Nearly all the coal miners will leave for Cariboo in the spring.

Row at a Dance-House.—On Saturday night a fight occurred at Terpsichorean Hall, between two men. Officer Harvey arrested both of the fighters, but in doing so was resisted by several outsiders, among whom was a certain well-known Cariboo explorer, who was subsequently arrested, but was shortly afterwards bailed out.

The Ladies' Fair.—The ladies are making considerable preparation for their fair, to come off at Moore's Hall on the 23d inst. The proceeds, it will be remembered, are to be devoted to the purchase of an organ for the Wesleyan Methodist Church—a most creditable object—and the contribution of articles by citizens generally towards the cause are solicited.

Raffle.—On Saturday evening the piano belonging to the Philharmonic Society was raffled for at the Boomerang Inn. The highest number thrown was 44, but the winner sold his chance for $140 before the raffle had concluded. At the close of the raffle the piano was put up at auction and brought $227 50.

In at Esquimalt.—The brig Emily W. Seyburn left the harbor on Saturday morning for Bellingham Bay, but before proceeding far sprung a leak and put in at Esquimalt on the same night. She will go on the beach for repairs.

Ashore.—The schooner General Harney, from Seatle with a cargo of hay, went ashore at Laurel Point yesterday. She will float off with the next tide.

Arrests.—The police arrested no less than seven white men on Saturday night and Sunday morning, for various offences

☞ A drunken Indian was arrested on Johnson street yesterday afternoon on a charge of attempting to cut a white man.

☞ Freight from New Westminster to Hope and Douglas is now $1 per ton; to Yale, $2.

Tuesday, Dec. 17.

The Bogus Gold Dust.—Wm. Grant, arrested for attempting to sell brass filings for gold dust to Nathan Solomon, was arraigned in the Police Court yesterday. Mr. Solomon testified that the prisoner asked $17 an ounce for the "dust," but witness finding that it felt "awful light," scrutinized it closely and discovered the attempted swindle; prisoner said he obtained it of a man from the American side. Officer Blake arrested Grant and swore that accused told him that a man named Smith, belonging over the Sound, had given it to him, but he could not or would not say what Smith owed it him for. The case was remanded for three days. The brass was exhibited in Court, and is decidedly the poorest imitation of gold dust we have ever seen. No sensible man could expect to pass such stuff in a gold country—and more especially to so shrewd a person as Mr. Solomon is known to be. Grant is no doubt too big a fool to run at large, and if the Colony will but pay his board for the next twelve months it will render him as well as society an important service.

The "Prince of the Seas."—Two sailors belonging to the Prince of the Seas stole the ship's boat on Sunday night, and are supposed to have crossed the Straits. A reward is offered for their apprehension. Some of the cargo of the vessel has been stolen. The hatches were opened yesterday, and the cargo appears to have been greatly damaged on the late voyage.

Hay—Is selling here at $35 per ton. The cargo brought by the General Harney, from Seattle, was sold to R. Brodrick yesterday at a considerable advance on former rates.

The Dance-House Row.—Henry T. Mulloy and James Lyon, respectable-looking miners, were before Mr. Pemberton yesterday morning on a charge of fighting at Terpsichorean Hall on Saturday night. Officer Harvey testified to a pugilistic encounter between the accused. Mulloy said he was drunk and could not say whether himself or Lyon was most to blame. Lyon stated that he also was under the influence of John Barleycorn, but thought both struck about the same time. The magistrate fined each party £5, remarking that order must be maintained at such places, or that the authorities would close them. Michael W. Shaw, a representative of the "Lone Star Republic," was next arraigned for attempting to rescue the prisoners from the officers, and was fined £5. The fines were all paid, and (looking at it in a business-like point of view) the Colonial Treasury is to-day better off by £15 than it would have been had the row not taken place.

Verdict of "Willful Murder."—The Coroner's jury, summoned to inquire into the cause of death of Thomas Holmes, late stoker on H. M. S. Topaze, yesterday morning returned a verdict of "wilful murder" against both the Cowichan Indians—Tom and Klor-ek. No evidence other than that already given in our columns, was produced. Coroner Dickson stated to the jury that he intended acquainting the Governor with the conduct of officer Blake in refusing to act as interpreter before the inquest without pecuniary remuneration. Several of the jurors, however, expressed their approbation of the course of the officer, and thought that if he was required to act an interpreter he was certainly entitled to remuneration.

The Ladies' Fair.—The fair at Moore's Hall, on next Friday, will be one of the pleasantest that has ever taken place in this city. The ladies are working hard to make it a success, and we are sure that the gentlemen will not be found behindhand when called on to do their share. The price of admission will be only fifty cents, which secures you a right to buy a hatful of useful or ornamental articles, and entitles you to the rare pleasure of being waited on by the fair sex.

A Rowdy Jack Tar.—A Topaze bluejacket was arrested on Sunday night, by officer Blake, for raising a row in a saloon. Yesterday morning in Court he denied the charge; but being told by the bench that if the case was remanded for one day and the assault proven he would be fined £5, and that if he pleaded guilty now he would only have to pay 5s., Jack chose the latter alternative, and acknowledged that he was to blame.

Striking at an Officer.—Alex. Ben. Costa pitched into policeman Riley in the passage-way of the theatre on Saturday night, and if the officer had permitted it, would have given him a tremendous thrashing. But being on the shoulder himself, the officer quickly floored A. B. C. and then dragged him through the mud to prison, where he laid until yesterday morning and paid 20s. as a punishment.

The Apple and Peanut Row.—The case of Thomas Cooper, the modern Hercules, accused of assaulting David Kaufman, the apple and peanut man, at the theatre on Saturday night, will come up for a hearing to-day in the Police Court.

☞ The brigantine Emily W. Seyburn has gone on the beach at Laing's for repairs.

☞ Two or three drunks paid the usual fine yesterday in the Police Court.

House of Assembly.

Thursday, Dec. 12, 1861.

House met at 3:25 o'clock. Present—Speaker Helmcken, and Messrs. Cary, King, Gordon, Franklin, Trimble, Trutch, Burnaby.

Mr. Franklin presented a petition from Jacob Francis (colored), praying that he be heard through counsel before a committee or the bar of the House, in regard to the contested seat for Victoria District. Mr. Franklin moved that the petition be handed to a committee.

The Speaker—The action of the Election Committee in throwing out the previous petition was final on the subject.

Mr King referred the Speaker to May's Practice, page —, wherein is set down the case of W. S. O'Brien, where the petitioner was heard after the decision of a committee.

The Speaker remarked that the case referred to was one of treason, and had nothing whatever to do with an election petition. The House could not set aside one of its standing orders.

Mr. King merely cited the case to show that rules were relaxed sometimes.

The Council Bill regulating swine and goats passed a second reading.

Monday, Dec. 16, 1861.

House met at 3½ o'clock. Present—Speaker Helmcken, and Messrs. King, Cary, Trimble, McDonald, Franklin, Trutch, Tolmie, Gordon.

Mr. King desired to intimate that he would, at the next meeting of the House, ask the Attorney General when the Court of Quarter Sessions was to be re-established, and was proceeding to make a few remarks, when the Attorney General suddenly left the House. Mr. King then gave formal notice that he would at the next meeting ask for information on the subject.

The House went into committee on the Swine and Goat Bill, Mr. Tolmie in the chair, and no further business was transacted up to the hour of adjournment.

Bronchial Affections.—A clergyman writing from Morristown, Ohio, speaking of the beneficial effects resulting from the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches," says: "Last Spring I feared my lungs were becoming dangerously involved, and until I used your Troches could not preach a sermon of ordinary length, without hoarseness; but now (with the assistance of "Troches") I have in the past five weeks preached some forty sermons."

Holloway's Pills.—*Disordered Stomach, Torpid Liver.*—Under every roof these terrors sometimes dwell; the peer and the pauper are alike obnoxious to them. If every household possessed these digestive Pills, how much annoyance would be spared, how much irritation averted, how many quarrels escaped! A "disordered stomach doth the mind inflame." These Pills operate equally on every disturbed function, and do not confine their powers to any particular organ; the stomach, liver, kidneys, bowels, blood, brain, and muscles, alike derive wholesome tone from this alterative preparation, which is entirely free from mercury and every other noxious ingredient. Any member of a family, without regard to age or sex, delicacy or vigor, may therefore use these Pills with the greatest safety and utmost confidence.

PASSENGERS.

Per schr TOLO, from San Francisco—M Cohn, (the Original Cheap John), Moses Moses, Col. G J Blain

Per stmr ENTERPRISE, from Port Townsend—Stiles, Gray, C White, D Simpson and mox clooch-men.

IMPORTS

Per schooner GEN HARNEY, from Port Townsend—25 tons hay to Tarry; value, $500

Per schr TOLO, from San Francisco—Fellows, 27 pgs mdse; C Boise, 73 sks beans, 15 boxes candies, 50 sks wheat, 48 do flour, 2 pgs meal, 10 do soap, 4 do brooms, 1 do h'dware, 1 do lard, 1 do mustard, 2 do coffee, 5 do onions, 1 do medicine; L Mouiette, 36 do beans, 14 do barley; Oorder, 150 do syrup; Casamayou, 10 do cheese, 20 do alcohol; Edgar & Aime, 3 pkgs paper, 5 do meal and buckwheat, 3 do homeny, 10 do coffee, 15 do sugar, 60 do candies, 10 do lard, 10 do oysters, 5 do allspice; Pickett & Co, 30 do sugar, 49 do beans; Gladwin, Tarbell & Co, 20 do sugar, 20 candies, 10 do pails, 5 do coffee; P M Backus, 30 pgs sugar; M Prag, 9 pgs glassware, 48 do iron, 7 do tea, 1 do rivets, 14 do stores, 10 do iron; G Sutro & Co, 2 do tobacco; Kwong, Lee & Co. 10 pgs oil, 20 do rattan, 3 do roots, 2 do pease, 16 do pork; J J Southgate & Co, 60 pgs cement, 15 pork, 2 do cotton waste, 1 do blocks, 25 do pitch, 5 do do oakum, 16 do peas, 64 do do, 55 pgs nails, 3 do shovels, 10 do currants, 263 pgs sugar, 2 do soap, 11 do oil, 45 do beef 10 do cloy, 1 do wine, 1 fender, 2 tons lead, 6 bbls tars, 5 do sugar, 20 do vinegar, 25 do wine; W M Searby, 24 pgs glass, 1 do paints; 2 do glue, 3 do oil, 2 do alcohol, 7 do camphene, 1 do paint and putty; Sporborg & Goldstone, pgs sheeting, 6 do chocolate; J D Carroll, 4 do cheese, 1 do sausage skins; John Dickson, 30 pgs h'dware; Guild, David & Co., 20 pgs tea, 15 do salt, 10 do pickles, 50 do candies, 10 do oysters, 10 do lard, 50 do beans, 5 do yeast powders, 10 do butter; Webster & Co, 9 pgs boots and shoes, 4 do leather,; O, 10 syrup; Laumeister, 150 flour; Pierce & Seymour, 27 pgs furniture 12 do mahogany; Blackman & Marks, 25 stoves and fixtures; S L Kelly, 28 stoves and fixtures; A Simpson, 15 pgs camphene; Martin Bro, 25 pgs candles, 5 do tea, 4 coffee, 10 do vinegar, 1 do hams; Vignolo, 100 pgs rice, 30 sugar, 22 do currants, 50 do candies, 6 do cheese, 15 do alcohol, 25 do lard, 4 do cheese; 1 do nutmegs, 100 do beans; C N; 100 pgs sugar; N Dickson, 4 pgs furniture, 1 do carpet. Value, $22,250

Per steamer ENTERPRISE, from Port Townsend—Reynolds, 4 hd cattle; Boran, 1 horse; W Ross, 2 horses a wagon; Dr Tolmie, 8 qrs beef, 1 bdl trees; self, 5 horses, 2 bxs chickens and eggs; John Heal, 8 bdls trees, W K Neal, 1 horse. Value, $755

Per PRINCE OF THE SEAS, from London—E Stamp & Co, 8000 slates, 537 bdls iron; Dickson, Campbell & Co, 25 tons pig iron to order, 42 coils rope, 180 drums paint, 6 rolls lead, 4 tes lead; J Morton, 130 bales standards, 16 iron posts, 8 bdls stays, 25 coils wire; 1 case; Henderson & Burnaby, 646 iron pipes, 1427 bars iron, and 4040 pgs of unspecified mdse to various consignees.

Per stmr ENTERPRISE, from Port Townsend—Reynolds, 34 sheep; Harris & Co, 106 sheep; L Minhinier, 1 horse. Value, $450.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF VICTORIA, V. I.

ARRIVED.

Dec 10—Stmr Enterprise, Curry, Port Townsend
Schr Nonsuch, Miller, San Juan
Sloop Petrel, Taylor, Port Townsend
Dec 11—Bark Prince of the Seas ——, London
Stmr Emily Harris, Court, New Westminster
Dec 12—Schr Tolo, Malony, San Francisco
Schr Mink, ——, Nanaimo
Sloop Leonede, Allen, Port Townsend
Dec 13—Stmr Enterprise, Curry, Port Townsend
Dec 14—Schr Carolena, Jones, Nanaimo
Schr Kossuth Oliver, Port Townsend
Dec 16—Stmr Otter, Mouat, New Westminster
Bark Prince of the Seas, Heller LeGrisley, London
Schr Gen Harney, Rhoedar, Port Townsend
Schr H C Page, Oberg, Port Townsend
Sloop Northern Light, Montford, Port Townsend

CLEARED.

Dec 10—Stmr Enterprise, Curry, Port Townsend
Stmr Otter, Mouat, New Westminster
Dec 14—Schr Nonsuch, Miller San Juan.
Dec 17—Schr Explorer, Whitford, Port Townsend
Schr Kossuth, Oliver, Port Townsend
Dec 15—Stmr Enterprise, Curry, Port Townsend
Dec 16—Sloop Northern Light, Montford, P Townsend

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

GOVERNMENT LOAN

Treasury, New Westminster, December 2d, 1861.

1. It being intended (under the Proclamation dated November 14th, 1861, and styled "The British Columbia Roads' Loan Act 1861.") to issue

250 of the 2d class Debentures, on March 1st, 1862,
250 do do April 1st, 1862,
500 do do May 1st, 1862.

Tenders are Invited for any number of the above-mentioned Debentures.

2 Tenders must reach me at this office not later than the 15th of January, 1862.

3. Tenders are to state the number of Debentures required, and for which of the three dates above named, and the sum it is proposed to offer for each Ten Pounds Debenture

4. Payment will have to be made at this Treasury punctually on the dates specified, and, if not in British coin, in United States currency, at the Government rate of a Dollar to Four Shillings.

W. DRISCOLL GOSSET, Treasurer.

de7 tjan15

MACDONALD & CO.,

Yates street, Victoria, V. I.

SELL EXCHANGE drawn at sight or on time, on
Coutts & Co., London.
Bank of State of New York, New York.
DRAFTS on
San Francisco, California.
Portland, Oregon.
GOLD DUST and Bullion purchased at the highest rates.
ADVANCES MADE on gold dust left for assay at Government Assay Office, New Westminster; or if sent for assay or coinage to United States Mint, San Francisco.

Collections made on reasonable terms, and a General Banking Business Transacted.

Victoria, V. I., July 19, 1861 no20-3mdaw

SPRING

Agricultural and Horticultural Society

EXHIBITION.

THE AGRICULTURAL AND HORticultural Society will hold their Second Exhibition in May next—of Early Farm and Garden Produce and the Industrial Arts.

By order.
J. T. PIDWELL, Secretary.

de15 tf

NATHAN POINTER,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods

GOVERNMENT STREET,

In the lower story of

British Colonist Fire-Proof Building,

Two doors South of the Post Office, Victoria, V. I.

Is now prepared to offer the largest assortment of Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods ever exhibited in Victoria, consisting of Messrs. Davis & Jones' Patent Shirts, (of New York), and L. Atkinson's Improved Shoulder Seam Patent Shirts. (of Philadelphia)

Just received, the latest styles of

BALTIC SHIRTS,

from London. Also, a fine lot of pure Baltic Stockings and Hose, Gents Shaker Flannel Undershirts and Drawers. Also, a fine lot of Derby and Saxony

Wool Shirts and Drawers,

White and Colored Marseilles Shirts, a full assortment Gents Superfine Manchester Gingham Shirts, a magnificent assortment of

GENTS SILK SCARFS,

a new style of Gents Fine Cassimere Comforters and Opera Scarfs, the latest styles of Davis & Jones' celebrated superfine patent

White and Colored Shirts,

and is also receiving by every Steamer those beautiful

BYRON SHIRTS,

of all sizes, varying from 13 to 20 inches around the neck. Ladies should call and examine those

Baltic Stockings,

for winter wear. Orders sent through Express for Shirts, by sending the size of the neck, I will guarantee to fit. Orders filled for all parts of

British Columbia & Puget Sound.

I shall receive fresh Goods by every arrival from London. Ladies' and Gentlemen's Kid Gloves, ex Grecian — A fine lot of

GENTLEMEN'S GLOVES,

for the Fall and Winter trade.

—ALSO—

a fine lot of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Silk Umbrellas, high finish The Gloves consist of some 75 dozen pairs, of various kinds The Crimean Blue Overshirts, weighing two and a half pounds, with double backs We study to please. Business hours, from 6 A. M., to 10 P. M. au28 6mdaw

W. H. OLIVER,

Importer and Wholesale Dealer in

Fine English French and American

Liquors,

CHAMPAGNES, CALIFORNIA WINES

CLARETS AND BRANDIES,

In the large and spacious Warehouse

Johnson street, opposite Wharf street

VICTORIA, V. I.

A large Stock of Bonded Wines and Brandies always on hand.

To Dealers purchasing in large quantities, a liberal discount will be made for cash.

Agency of 1st Premium California Wines, in packages and cases;
Agency of Old Sachem and Hostetter's Bitters;
Choice Claret Wines, in casks and cases, received direct from Bordeaux, via San Francisco, in bond;
Choice Old French Brandies, received direct from the Agents, in bond, via San Francisco;
Choice Old Bourbon Whiskies;
" " Port and Sherry Wines, in casks & cases;
High Proof Jamaica Rum;
" " Scotch Whisky;
" " Brandy and Whiskies;
" " Alcohol and Spirits, in bbls. and tins;
Champagne Wines, complete stock of all the favorite brands now in use;
And a general assortment of Case Liquors, Cordials Syrups, etc.

Traders and Dealers visiting Victoria will find it to their interest to call and examine my stock before purchasing. All orders from British Columbia and towns on the Sound will meet with prompt attention.

W. H. OLIVER.

jul9 6mw

Public Notice.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—TERRITORY OF WASHINGTON—Third Judicial District,

Whereas, a Libel has been filed in the District Court of the United States, in and for the 3d Judicial District of Washington Territory, on the 16th day of November, A. D, 1861, by George Campbell and Charles F. Lott, merchants, trading under the firm name of Dickson, Campbell & Co., Libellants, against the British ship True Briton, her tackle, apparel and furniture, and against all persons intervening for their interest therein, alleging in substance that about the month of May, 1860, George Postlethwaite shipped on board said ship or vessel, then lying in the port of London, England, two hundred and fifty cases of bottled beer, consigned to Messrs. Dickson, Campbell & Co., in Vancouver's Island, they paying freight as per per bill of lading; that said ship or vessel arrived at the port of Vancouver's Island in the month of August, 1861, and delivered said cargo to said consignees in a damaged condition, which libellants allege was the result of bad stowage and careless and improper handling on the voyage, and that said damage amounts to the sum of two thousand five hundred and fifty dollars, and praying process against said ship, her tackle, &c., that the Court may decree damages to the libellants as claimed, and that said ship, her tackle, &c., may be condemned and sold to pay such damages, with costs, charges, and expenses.

Now, therefore, in pursuance of the monition, under the seal of the said Court, to me directed and delivered, I do hereby give public notice to all persons claiming said ship True Briton, her tackle, apparel and furniture, or in any manner interested therein, that they be and appear before the said District Court to be held at Port Townsend in and for the Third Judicial District, Washington Territory, on the second day of January, A. D., 1862, at ten o'clock, A. M. of said day, (provided the same shall be a day of jurisdiction, otherwise, on the next day of jurisdiction thereafter,) then and there to interpose their claims, and to make their allegations in that behalf

Dated the 22d day of November, 1861.

CHARLES E WEED, U. S. Marshal.
By W. W. ARMSTRONG, Deputy

Dennison & Garfielde, Proctors for Libellants, Port Townsend, W. T.

FOR SALE,

THE FOLLOWING VALUABLE PROPERTY:

1ST. LOT OF GROUND 38x120 FEET, Southeast corner of Fort and Douglas streets, with a substantial 2-story Brick Building and four Wooden Cottages; 120 feet frontage on Douglas street.

2d. Lot 403, northeast corner Fort and Douglas streets, 60x130, with two handsome Cottages; 120 ft frontage on Douglas street.

3d. Lot southeast corner of View and Douglas, No. 410, with one good sized Cottage; 120 feet frontage on Douglas.

The property brings a good income and is worthy the attention of capitalists or parties wishing to invest, having a frontage of 360 feet on Douglas street, and being almost all covered by improvements and near the centre of actual business, promising, therefore, a good investment to the purchaser.

4th. Lot of ground 55x90 feet on Broughton street, between the Gymnasium and the Victoria Market.

5th. Lot No. 226, corner of Humboldt and Gordon streets, with improvements, near Government street.

6th. Lot No. 1081 on View streets.

7th. Lease for 20 years of Lots 426 and 427 with some improvements, most part built upon, corner of Yates and Douglas, with a frontage of 120 feet on both streets, yielding already $50 per month more than the ground rent.

TERMS:

25 per cent. Cash; balance at two years or before, with interest at one per cent. per month.

Mules or horses taken in part payment.

For particulars apply to the owner,

C. VERYDHEN, Corner of Fort and Douglas streets.

Or to J. B. TIMMERMAN, Real Estate Agent, 83 Government street

no26 1m daw

NOTICE.

Bishop Demers respectfully informs the public that he has secured the services of a competent person to conduct the English department of his school, in Humboldt street. de10 1w

THE WORLD'S FRIEND!

Holloway's Ointment.

A Cure for Piles and Fistulas.

Inflammation of sensitive parts, piles, fistulas, and such like painful diseases may be presently relieved, and ultimately cured, by the proper and diligent use of this cooling and healing Ointment, whose action should, in such cases, be assisted by judicious doses of Pills: ere many days have elapsed the anxious patient will experience a wonderful degree of ease from this treatment. They are equally suitable to both sexes, and all ages.

Coughs, Colds, and Asthma.

These complaints of the chest come on with alarming frequency. The Ointment should assiduously be rubbed at least twice a day on the chest and between the shoulders, when the violence of all symptoms will gradually give way, the breathing become longer, and the oppression less. No medicines are more efficient in chest complaints, none can be used with equal safety and certainty. Both Pills and Ointment are accompanied by very clear and simple directions for using them.

A Man who refused to have his Leg off.

"*From the Kilrush Advertiser, June 2nd, 1860.*"

Benjamin Cox, Esquire, Magistrate, said in the Board Room at Kilrush, that he knew a man who had been in the Infirmary and was actually turned out as incurable, on his way home to Kilrush, he purchased at Ennis, Holloway's Pills and Ointment, for, as he said, it could not be worse with him. This man, said Mr. Cox, became by their use as sound and as healthy as any man in the room. These celebrated Pills and Ointment will cure any wound, sore, or ulcer, however long standing, if properly used according to the printed directions.

Gout and Rheumatism.

The essence of these diseases lie in the blood, which has, floating through each vessel, the pain-giving poison, which irritates and inflames every tissue it comes in contact with, and produces the hot, swollen, elastic enlargement about the joints so characteristic of gouty diseases. The philosophy of cure consists in overcoming this depravity in the blood, which is rapidly purified by the use of the Pills The Ointment, when rubbed upon the skin, penetrates the system through the pores, acts in unison with the Pills, and soon effects a cure.

Dropsy, Swollen Legs or Ankles.

The various kinds of dropsies, whether windy or watery, arise from some obstruction to the free circulation though the blood vessels or lymphatics, or depend on the inflamed state of some secreting surface. Holloway's remedies, of which the efficacy cannot be exaggerated, act directly upon the blood, the absorbents and secretions, with a power that no dropsy however inveterate, can long resist. They regulate the proper flow of blood to every organ, and purify it likewise,—they filter out everything that is morbid or injurious,—they thoroughly regenerate every function, yet potent as they are for good, they are powerless for evil. They do not contain mercury or any noxious substances. They act safely and certainly.

Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, and Old Ulcers.

This invaluable Ointment was never known to fail in the cure of any wound, any sore, or any ulcer,—as can be proved by innumerable testimonials from persons who had been discharged from Hospitals as incurable, and yet by perseverance they have been made as sound as they were the day they were born, by this incomparable Ointment. For pimples, blotches, scald heads, and scorbutic humours, it is equally efficacious.

Both the Ointment and Pills should be used in the following cases:

Bad Legs	Chiego foot	Fistulas	Sore-throats
Bad Breasts	Chilblains	Gout	Skin-diseases
Burns	Chapped Hands	Glandular	Scurvy
Bunions	Corns (Soft)	Swellings	Sore-heads
Bite of Mosquitoes and	Cancers	Lumbago	Tumours
Sand-Flies	Contracted and Stiff Joints	Piles	Ulcers
Coco bay	Elephantiasis	Rheumatism	Wounds
Scalds			Yaws
			Sore Nipples

☞ There is a considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N. B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each Pot. n13

☞ CURTIS & MOORE, Sole Agents for Vancouver Island. de4

LEA & PERRINS'

CELEBRATED

Worcestershire Sauce.

PRONOUNCED BY CONNOISSEURS TO BE THE Only Good Sauce, and applicable to EVERY VARIETY OF DISH.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from a MEDICAL GENTLEMAN at Madras, To his Brother at Worcester, May, 1851

"Tell Lea & Perrins that their Sauce is highly esteemed in India, and is, in my opinion, the most palatable, as well as the most wholesome Sauce that is made."

EXTENSIVE FRAUDS.

L & P. having discovered that several of the Foreign Markets have been supplied with Spurious Imitations of the "WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE," the labels of which closely resemble those of the genuine Sauce, and in one or more instances, with the names of L. & P. forged, they have deemed it their duty to caution the public, and to request purchasers to see that the names of Lea & Perrins are upon the Wrapper, Lable, Stopper and Bottle.

L. & P. further give notice that they will proceed against any one who may infringe upon their right, either by manufacturing or vending such imitations, and have instructed their correspondents in the various parts of the world to advise them of such infringements.

Wholesale and for exportation by the Proprietors, Lea & Perrins, Worcester, England; Crosse and Blackwell, and other Oilmen and Merchants. London. n10 1awly

Keating's Cough Lozenges

A SAFE AND CERTAIN REMEDY for Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, and other Affections of the Throat and Chest. In Incipient Consumption, Asthma, and Winter Cough they are unfailing. Being free from every hurtful ingredient, they may be taken by the most delicate female or the youngest child; while the public speaker and the professional singer will find them invaluable in allaying the hoarseness and irritation incident to vocal exertion, and also a powerful auxiliary in the production of melodious enunciation.

Prepared and sold in Boxes and Tins, of various sizes, by Thomas Keating, Chemist, etc., No. 79, St. Paul's Church Yard, London. Sold retail by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Venders in the World.

N B.—To prevent spurious imitations, please to observe that the words "Keating's Cough Lozenges" are engraved on the Government Stamp of each box, without which none are genuine.

CURE OF ASTHMA OF SEVERAL YEARS' STANDING.

Cainscross, near Stroud, Gloucestershire.

Sir,—Having been troubled with Asthma for several years, I could find no relief from any medicine whatever, until I was induced about two years ago to try a Box of your valuable Lozenges, and found such relief from them that I am determined for the future never to be without a box of them in the house, and will do all in my power to recommend them to my friends.

If you consider the above testimonial of any advantage, you are quite at liberty to make what use of it you please.

I am, Sir, your most obliged servant,

W. J. TRIGG.

Thomas Keating, Esq.

☞ Sold at Victoria, Vancouver Island, by Mr W. M. Searby, Pharmaceutical Chemist. ja12 12t wy

Dinneford's Pure Fluid Magnesia

HAS BEEN, DURING TWENTY-FIVE years, emphatically sanctioned by the Medical Profession, and universally accepted by the public, as

THE BEST REMEDY FOR

Acidity of the Stomach, Heartburn, Headache, Gout and Indigestion,

And as a Mild Aperient for delicate constitutions more especially for Ladies and Children. Combined with the ACIDULATED LEMON SYRUP, it forms an agreeable Effervescing Draught, in which its aperient qualities are much increased. During Hot Seasons, and, above all, in Hot Climates, the regular use of this simple and elegant remedy has been found highly beneficial. Manufactured (with the utmost attention to strength and purity,) by

DINNEFORD & CO., 172 New Bond street, London

And sold by all respectable Chemists throughout the Empire. fe8 wly

THE BRITISH COLONIST, PRINTED and Published by Amor DeCosmos, Government street, near the Post Office, Victoria, V. I.

Tuesday morning, December 17, 1861.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST
Supplement.

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The Mischievous Effects of Bad Measures.

In early times—we mean '58 and '59—the mercury of public feeling rose and fell with almost every arrival from the mines. When good news arrived in those days everybody's countenance brightened. The lowering clouds that hung over our future were momentarily dispelled as if by magic. Croakers crawled within their shells, convinced that they would yet realise a fortune out of their fifty and hundred-dollar town lots. The good news in fact created a sensation, and in the right direction. When news arrived that the diggings on Fraser River were shallow, not six inches deep, acres had to be washed to make a "raise," except a claim was equivalent to a quarter section it was no use, and that the miners were either all coming down, or only waiting to make a "raise" to leave the country,—then the mercury sunk, gloom spread over nearly all countenances, the expressmen were going to stop running next trip, and the croakers emerged once more from their shells with an air of self-importence, exclaiming to all whom they met: "There, didn't I tell you so. The country's gone in. Fraser River is a bumbug. The mines are played out. Tyhee Freezy has been over from the Songish camp to see what brick house he'll make his head quarters." Gradually the "blues" would disappear as the time for the steamer to arrive approached, and according to the character of the news the mercury went up and down. Hope led now; distrust followed. Now distrust in the country led and hope followed. In fact, sensations of opposite kinds followed and led each other every week or ten days. Under this state of public feeling very little progress was made; and it was impossible to expect it when the great object of the "new-comers"—to make a rapid fortune in trade or lot speculations—was dependent on the miners; and more particularly when the accounts from the mines were so contradictory. Gradually the country emerged from the minieg-news sensation period; the future appeared rose-colored; the country was safe; and progress was made the order of the day. Much valuable time however had been lost; much money spent; and much thought and talk were wasted. Nevertheless this result could not be totally avoided; everything was dependent on the success of the mines; and it took time to prove them a success or a failure.

Happily the explorations of '59, '60, and '61 have completely fulfilled the cherished hopes of the pioneers of '58. No one now entertains a doubt as to the brilliant future before the country. Not only gold, but silver, copper, lead, and coal are found in abundance, and vast areas have been found suitable for agriculture, and a thousand miles of coast indented with harbors gape open inviting commerce and navigation. We feel secure; and we only ask for population to render our country one of the foremost on the Pacific. Unfortunately, however, for this country, we are visited periodically with sensations of a very different kind. Society is shaken every now and then from centre to circumference by very different causes. Government which some have defined as a necessary evil, has too often been an unnecessary evil here for the good of the country, or for its own success, and has too often thrown society into a wild state of excitement by trampling on the law, or by the passage of bad measures, or the introduction of bad measures into the Legislature. We have become accustomed to live in weekly or fortnightly expectation of some new sensation from governmental causes. We need not use our space to record again a full category of sensations; we need only name the last—the Jury Bill. Every man in the community felt that his liberties were attacked—his rights in danger. Town and country execrated the attempt to tamper with our institutions. The governmental effort to sweep away at one stroke the most sacred guarantee of British liberty—trial by jury—made the country stare with astonishment at its audacity. Our merchants, our traders our mechanics, our laborers, our clergymen, our lawyers, were aroused to put down so dangerous an experiment, so doubtful an experiment—one so hedged round with distrust that the impression daily gained strength that it was to be used for vindictive purposes, inimical to liberty. Valuable time was expended in its discussion; money was spent in hiring halls for public meetings; much thought, research, and talk were wasted, in order to destroy the viper before its fangs became venomous. The weight of public opinion—for there is a public opinion here—crushed with its full force the mad, bad measure called the Jury Bill.

But let us look at the mischievous effects of this bad measure. It was a Government bill; named in the Governor's speech, and presented to the Assembly by the acknowledged organ of the Government. Consequently the Government was held responsible, though constitutionally irresponsible here. But if Government had been responsible in the true sense, it would have been smashed, disgraced, turned out, so strong was and is public opinion against it. As it is, its dangerous innovations make all classes look with distrust on the Government. Our substantial men begin to think that danger to our public and private rights lurks in every bill. Every one anxiously watches for the next bill. They know not where the blow will be aimed, nor where the stroke will fall. Under this state of things, Government, though a necessary evil, becomes an unnecessary evil; and all through the mischievous effects of its bad measures. There are legitimate grounds on which for a Government party to differ from an Opposition party, but this bill was not legitimate. For we ought not to be called on to fight for rights which were won by our ancestors centuries ago. We want, as in all constitutional governments, to entertain sufficient confidence in those in power to believe our birthright secure, no matter how much we may differ on minor topics. Of the evil effect, then, of bad measures we complain; we want reform.

With the bright prospects before us, with a large accession to our population anticipated in the spring, public attention ought not to be mischievously diverted by sensation bills from the study of those measures calculated to promote the substantial interests of the country at large. If we want a mint, a direct steamboat line, the town incorporated, wagon roads constructed, the island explored, coast routes opened, our mines and mineral resources developed by any new scheme, or our commerce spread, they are legitimate subjects for government to touch. But to occupy the public mind at a juncture like the present with measures like the Jury Bill, stamps the government with the paternity of schemes adverse to the public good. It is time that higher and more correct notions of government and of the real wants of the country should prevail. We have passed through the sensation period attached to the discovery of our mines, and the settlement of this town and British Columbia, and we should also experience with the Jury Bill, the last of those mischievous sensations that not only root out every vestige of public confidence in the government, but check the advancement of the country.

Funny Scene.

Yesterday the Police Court was the arena in which was played as funny a scene as we have witnessed for some time. One James McAllister, a stoker on H. M. S. Topaze, was brought up on a warrant charging him with maliciously kicking in the door of Mr. Selleck, at Esquimalt. The prisoner was rather the worse for liquor. Mr. Selleck proved the mischief, and also an assault made by the accused on two squaws.

Mr. Pemberton—What have you to say to the charge, McAllister?

Prisoner—[hitching up his trousers at the waist, and spitting on the floor.]—Vell, yer honor, as I vos a comin' along the 'Squimalt road yesterday, a little tight, I preceived two clootch-vimmen a standin' outside of a 'ouse and they vos a laughin' at me. So I haxes myself—Is 'eathens to be allowed to laugh at Christians in this blasted country? Of a certainty not, says I, and so I makes a rush for the 'eathens, and they runned into the 'ouse for pertection and shut the door arter 'em; but I kicked it in, and I couped one of 'em, yer honor, vith my right 'and and I wumbled another on 'em with my left, [laughter] and just then a b—y hold bloak steps up, and ses he, "Jack, vot are ye a doin?"—and I wumbled him too—blast his heyes. [Uproarious laughter, in which the whole Court joined.]

Clerk—Order in Court.

Prisoner—Horder yerself; I don't care a b—y bit for any o' ye; ye think ye are somebody, me lad, vith that 'ere pen stuck in yer fist, but if ye'll just step outside and have a bit of a bout, if I don't soon conwince ye that yer're nobody, my name's not Jem McAllister. [Laughter.]

Officer Blake—Here, you must stop this, or I'll take you into custody.

Prisoner—(Doubling up his fists)—Come on, me boy; ye're about a yard ahead o' me vith yer brass buttons and yer blue coat, but 'ere's for ye, if ye mean fight. [To the Court:] I didn't know vot the vimmen vos or vot they vosn't—nor I didn't care vich; all I knowed vos as they vos a couple of sinful, vell-dressed 'eathens a laughin' at a Christian—and I couldn't stand that, ye know, no how.

After considerable difficulty and amid much laughter, the prisoner was quieted, and a fine of £1 imposed on him for the mischief. He was then taken into custody on a charge of being drunk and disorderly in Court, and removed to prison for one day, evoking as he left the room the choicest imprecations on the heads of the judge, officers and spectators, and promising to "square the ring" with 'em on some future occasion.

The Late Murder—Coroner's Inquest.

The Coroner's inquiry into the facts connected with the horrid murder of the unfortunate sailor, Thomas Holmes, by Cowichan Indians, was continued Wednesday at the Police Barracks. The clothes of the deceased man, covered with blood, were recovered yesterday morning by Superintendent Smith. They were found buried in a house occupied by Tom and Klor-ek, and created much feeling when exhibited to the jurors. The evidence taken was the most conflicting and extraordinary we ever remember to have listened to, and seems to establish beyond a doubt the guilt of the Indians in custody. "Mrs. Tom," wife of Tom, is also in jail. The following evidence was taken:

Henry Subery, (stoker on board H. M. S. Topaze) sworn—I was Thomas Holmes' messmate for two years, six months and a few days. I have seen the dead body and recognize it as that of Thomas Holmes; on last Sunday afternoon he came ashore and I heard no more of him until I learned of his death the next day. I indentify the clothing produced in Court as belonging to deceased.

Another stoker identified the body as that of Thomas Holmes, and also the clothes as belonging to deceased.

Lauk, alias *Tom*, a Cowichan, sworn through Rev. A. C. Garrett interpreter—I saw a sailor on the night of Sunday last in one of the Indian rancheries with the prisoner, Klor-ek, *alias* Charley; both were drunk; Charley had hold of the sailor until after all the men had stopped dancing, when he said to the sailor "Come outside;" I followed and saw them go into the bushes together; Charley said to me, "don't you come," and I went to my home. [Here followed a long statement of a quarrel witness had had with his wife, which seemed to have not the least bearing on the murder.] I got something to eat from my wife and went back to the dance and tried to find the prisoner there, but could not see him. I then went into the bushes and found the sailor and Charley together—the former on the ground and the latter on top of him; the prisoner said to me, "what did you come here after? You go away; I want to be alone; I want compensation (revenge?) for my father who is in jail, because I am afraid the King George men will hang him." Deceased called out in English: "Come here, this man is going to kill me." As soon as I heard that I ran away to my house, and shortly after the prisoner came in, carrying the clothes now in Court; my wife said: "I don't want those things;" the prisoner, on a previous occasion, killed the father of one of my friends; early the next morning he ran away and hid himself in the bushes; I saw a small cord around the sailor's neck with a knife attached to it, but I did not see the prisoner stab him; he wore the same clothes he has on; he was seen to wash his shirt after the dance; I saw the body at midnight; deceased gave a bottle of whisky to the prisoner, and he gave me some of it; when the sailor called out, the knife had been used to cut him, because I saw blood on the pathway; there was a moon and there was snow on the ground; I saw the prisoner wash the blood from the body with salt water; the mother of my wife buried the clothes. The prisoner made an effort to take the body to the sea, tie a rope with a stone attached about its neck and sink it, but it was two heavy for him. He often said he wanted to kill all the King George and Boston men he could, as his father was in jail; he also said on several occasions that he lived in hope of killing Mr. Pemberton before long. The prisoner wanted to give me half of deceased's clothes, but my wife would not consent to let me take them; he said he would give me half of them if I would help him sink the body in the sea. I was not drunk.

At the conclusion of Tom's evidence, the prisoner, Charley, was brought forward and after being duly cautioned, gave the following statement through Rev. Mr. Garrett:

The witness Tom has told a lie from first to last. Tom was looking at the dance and I saw a Cowichan go outside of the house and I went out with him; I saw a man-o'-war's man outside who asked me something about a clootchman. * * * * * The sailor finally said, "I want to see the dance," and I led him inside; we looked at the dance for a little while and then we went out together; the sailor gave me some whisky and we went into the bushes to look for a clootchman; we sat down and he gave me some more whisky from a bottle and also drank himself; just then Tom appeared and deceased said, "don't let him come near us, as he may tell the policemen that I gave him whisky;" I told Tom what the sailor said, but he came up and deceased rose to his feet, and we both fell to the ground, I on top; we both got up and sat down again, Tom with us. The sailor used bad language towards Tom, who replied in the same way; and soon they fell to fighting. Tom said, "It is good to kill this man," and I asked "Why? if I kill him every one will say I did it because my father is in jail." Tom then took a stick and bent it about the sailor's throat, but it broke. A bottle that the sailor had under his coat fell to the ground, and I was looking for it when the sailor called out, "Come here; this Siwash wants to kill me." Suddenly I heard a loud noise like a rush of wind from the man's throat, and a great deal of blood poured out and covered the arms and hands of Tom. I asked Tom why he killed the man. "Oh," said he, "for nothing; let us take the clothes." He then tore off the two shirts deceased had on, and I took the trousers and shoes. Tom ran to his house, and being drunk I followed him. He took off his shirt and washed his arms, and I gave him another shirt, after which we went to bed. In the morning we lighted a fire and sat by it until a young man came in and charged us with killing the sailor and advised us to run away and hide. We did so. The reason Tom killed him was in revenge for my father, who is in jail. The body was not washed. The deceased's own knife was used to kill him with. There were no others besides Tom and I present. The woman (Tom's wife) was in the house.

Mrs. Tom, the wife of Tom, was next examined—She was asleep when Charley came in and asked for water. He had blood on his arms and hands, and washed it off; he told me not to tell of him, and said he was much to be pitied because his father was in prison; he asked for food, and I told him where he could get salmon and potatoes; he afterwards went out to look for his cap and I went to sleep, and in the morning he was gone; he found the cap and laid it on my bed; he walked up and down the house restlessly, and ran away when the sun was up.

Horace Smith, sworn—Am Chief of Police; went to Tom's house and asked his clootchman for deceased's clothes; she went with me to a small hut adjoining and looked around but pretended she could not find them until I pulled out a pistol and told her I would blow her brains out if she did not tell me where they were, when she pointed to a pile of firewood about four feet high; we raised it and found the clothes underneath; Tom, Charley and the clootchman lived together.

At the conclusion of the above evidence, the further hearing of the case was postponed till Monday next, 16th inst., at 10 o'clock. Tom, Charley and the woman was held in close custody.

Supreme Court in Equity.

TUESDAY, Dec. 10.

Mowatt and others against Duncan and Yates—Fourth Day—Mr. Cary (instructed by Mr. Drake) for the plaintiffs; Mr. Ring and Mr. McCreight (instructed by Mr. Dennes) for the defendant Duncan.

In this suit, Mr. Ring (Mr. McCreight with him) applied to His Honor for leave to amend the answer, which, although it has been settled by counsel, appeared to him and his learned brother to require amendment which he pointed out, citing authorities to show that the Court had power to make substantial amendments (not merely technical) on the hearing of the cause.

Mr. Cary opposed. Mr. Ring replied, and His Honor intimated that he would give his decision to-morrow.

Diffusing Information.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—I fear there is a good deal of truth in the remark of a correspondent of the San Francisco *Bulletin*, inserted by you in this morning's issue, to the effect that "hardly anybody in England knows anything about" these Colonies; and no one, I think, will dispute the expediency of sending a lecturer to diffuse information. In the meantime, I would suggest that much good might be done by private individuals sending our local papers home and getting them placed in the reading rooms of the localities in which they are particularly interested. In this way, through some friends of mine, the reading-room of the Free Library in one of our most populous English cities is regularly supplied with Victoria (V. I.) newspapers, and were others to follow out the same plan, we might, without any expense to the Colony and but little to individuals, diffuse considerable information in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Norwich, Edinburg, Glasgow, Dublin, &c., through merchants and others connected with these several localities.

I make this suggestion because it is not two years since I was in London seeking information about these Colonies, and could not obtain a Victoria newspaper, though I went several miles in search of one. Even your agents, Messrs. Algar and Street, had none, nor could they tell me where to find one. When at last I fell upon an old copy of the *Gazette*, it was of more service than all the books and letters I had read. I would further suggest that the daily issue be sent in preference to the weekly, as the business announcements, &c., throw more light on the commercial and social state of affairs, than the collection of "locals" and "leaders" alone.

These remarks will also apply to our English Colonies, the United States, and even California, none of which localities are too well informed about us.

A BRITISH COLONIST.

Victoria, Dec. 9th, 1861.

RISE IN FLOUR.—We are informed that the stock of flour on hand in this city is very limited, and holders are unwilling to dispose of the article at slight advances: inasmuch as they anticipate higher prices, when the extent of the damage to the upper Willamette mills becomes known.—*Portland Oregonian*, 6th.

The Oregon produce market here has also advanced materially. Flour has gone up from $1 50 to $2 per barrel, since the news of the freshet arrived, and other articles in proportion. Oregon Flour is selling at $7 per barrel for superfine and $8 for extra; Bacon, 15 *a* 16c. per pound; Eggs, 87½c. *a* $1 per doz.; Apples, 5 and 6 cents per pound; Butter, 37½ and 40 cents. Stocks are very light, and a slight demand will clear the market. There is no California flour in town save that intended for baker's use.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—What has become of the committee appointed at a meeting of merchants held in this city some two months since for the ostensible purpose of forming a Chamber of Commerce. Every one agreed that the proposed association would prove a most desirable one, and we are therefore surprised to find that no steps—beyond the appointment of a committee that seems to have neglected its duty—have been taken.

THE FRESHET.—On the 6th inst., the water at Portland had fallen, and the *Advertiser* announced the crisis past. Several more mills had been swept away, and it will require several years before Oregon can fully recover from the severe blow she has received. One town—Linn City—is reported as totally destroyed, and the rise of water at the Cascades was fourteen feet. Produce of every description has advanced in price since the freshet.

Letter from Rev. T. Starr King.

We have been handed for publication the following letter from Rev. T. Starr King, of San Francisco, to the Committee of American residents of this city appointed to collect subscriptions in aid of the cause of the American Union. The Committee, by the steamer of the 16th ult., forwarded $1000 to Mr. King, and the letter is written as an acknowledgement of the receipt of the money. The delicate compliment paid by the Rev. gentleman to British institutions, and the fervent wish for a continuance of peaceful relations between Great Britain and the United States, will no doubt be fully appreciated and re-echoed by all classes and nationalities here resident:

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 26, 1861.

GENTLEMEN:—I received on Sunday morning your communication of Nov. 15th, with the admirable resolutions of the loyal American citizens of Victoria, and the draft on Wells, Fargo & Co. for one thousand dollars, contributed by subscription of Americans in your city to the national cause.

Let me hasten to assure you that it will give me very great pleasure to serve as your agent in transmitting the generous donation, without any cost of exchange, to our struggling brethren at the East. Such a noble and spontaneous expression of sympathy and fellowship will be as encouraging to them, as it is in the highest degree honorable to you. Hearts will be cheered at the East, and patriotic purposes confirmed by such an echo from sons of the Union on the borders of the Pacific, now living under the folds of the British flag. They will honor you and bless you.

And let us hope that this offering from "Victoria" is auspicious as an omen that there is to be no disruption of our peaceful bonds with England, and that no embarrassing obstacle to the triumph of law, liberty, and Saxon civilization throughout our Republic is to be cast in our way by *the Cabinet of Victoria* which holds now the great trusts of British power and honor. A rebellion for the sake of supporting slavery and of making the world tributary to its interests, is not a cause to which the sympathies of England naturally belong. The Stars and Stripes represent the principles and hopes which make English history illustrious; and the American Government is, to-day, defending against traitors the seed-truths and the sacred customs which America received as an inheritance from English liberty, established. let us remember, through years of civil war. No calamity could be greater now to the cause of freedom and civilisation than a war with Great Britain and her open aid of the rebel cause in the South. Let us aid, so far as we can, the cultivation of a good understanding and of a generous fellowship. Let us labor and pray that a spectacle so unnatural and an alliance so unholy as that just alluded to, may not be seen in the high noon of this Christian century.

Your communication, gentlemen, reached me at a time when it could render important service to our cause here. It happened that I was to deliver a discourse in the largest hall in the city, on Sunday evening, the 24th inst., upon the duty of subscribing largely to the national loan. The hall was crowded. Scarce less than three thousand citizens were present. Your documents reached me about noon of Sunday, and I read your vigorous resolutions and patriotic pledges to the vast assembly. Although it was Sunday night and in a religious service, the papers were received with hearty and loud applause, and they contributed powerfully to inspire us with patriotism and incite us to a larger subscription to the loan.

And now let me say a word as to the appropriation of your gift. I am in communication with a National Board called the "The Sanitary Commission" at the East, who have in charge the hospital arrangements and sanitary interests of the army. They have done immense good in providing for the health of the soldiers as well as in organizing provision for the needs of the sick, and the members all devote their services without charge to the public cause. I received recently a document endorsed by the President of the United States and General Scott, appealing to loyal citizens everywhere for aid to their treasury as the surest way of reaching and assisting the sick and wounded of our army. I am about raising a contribution here, and I am sure that your money would do more good if given to the Commission, and would reach needy persons from wider districts of the land, than it could if given in any other way. I shall therefore take the liberty to send it, this week, with an account of your patriotism, to the President of the Commission, and I will send you his receipt and vouchers when they reach me.

I need not say, gentlemen, that it will afford me great satisfaction to serve you, at any future time, in this or any other capacity.

With cordial gratitude for the honor you have done me, and hearty wishes for your prosperity,

I am Yours,

In the country's cause,

TH. STARR KING.

To J. A. McCrea, J. F. Hawks, and J. L. Smith, Victoria.

Oregon.

By the arrival of the Enterprise, we have two days' later news from Oregon. Papers are to the 7th inst. The papers are filled with stories of the richness of Salmon River. One claim with rockers yielding daily to five men over $3000. The excitement is intense.

The *Times* says that many will leave Oregon for Cariboo in the Spring, and is endeavoring to induce them to take the overland route *via* the Dalles. We shall have cause to pity the poor fellows if they follow that advice.

The water has fallen three feet at Portland.

A man named Gassie Charlie was seriously stabbed at Vancouver, on the 4th, by a volunteer.

L. M. Starr has been elected Chief Engineer, and M. M. Lucas and P. D. W. Hardenburg, Assistant Engineers of the Portland Fire Department.

TO MAKE HENS LAY.—A correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer* says: I send you a receipt for making hens lay. Take some oats and boil them until soft: then fry them in hot fat, and you will have any quantity of eggs.

☞ In Lower California, hay is worth $100 per ton, and barley $5 per 100 lbs.

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, December 17, 1861.

Our Seventh Volume.

To-day we commence the Seventh Volume of the British Colonist. Three years ago, on December 11, 1858, our first number appeared. It was a dwarf in size, not half the size of our daily issue; but it had a rugged constitution, and if it had not, our career would have been cut short like some of the journals that were started both before and since the Colonist made its appearance. All kinds of unusual efforts have been made to stunt our growth or starve us out; and all to no purpose. Live we would; grow we did, stout and strong in the bargain, till at last we have become a recognized institution of the country; so that the man who don't read or take the Colonist may be set down as an individual who don't know what is going on in the country. From a dwarf weekly we grew into a tri-weekly in May '59. Six months afterward we doubled our size; and about eight months later, when we were the only newspaper in existence in this colony—five journals and a Government Gazette having died out—we issued an edition on five days of the week increased in size. About the first of January, this year, we commenced our daily issue, appearing every day except Sunday.

To the Colonist then belongs the honor of issuing the first Daily Newspaper ever published in the British Colonies of the Pacific. From a circulation of two hundred a week, we have grown till we enjoy a weekly circulation of four thousand, and on this our fourth birthday, our circulation is still increasing. The Colonist was first printed in French type on the first printing press ever brought to these colonies. Both the type and press were brought from Paris by the Right Rev. Dr. Demers, Catholic Bishop, from whom the proprietor of the Colonist purchased them. During the first three months the type were set and the press-work done by a Canadian printer from the banks of the Ottawa; and the editorial department conducted by a Nova Scotian from then till now. The Printer, Proprietor and Editor by birth British Colonists, the country a British colony, and all the population, whether British or foreign, were British Colonists for the time being, we christened our journal The British Colonist; and we may fairly claim to have published the first British journal on the eastern shores of of the Pacific. For the *Victoria Gazette*, the first paper ever published here, was owned and edited by Americans. The second paper, the *Vancouver Island Gazette*, only issued two or three numbers, though started by a professed Englishman, who was usually regarded as a citizen of the United States. The third paper, *The Courrier de La Nouvelle Caledonie*, belonged to a Frenchman, and only lived through nine issues. The Colonist was the fourth newspaper started, and it has outlived all other journals started here either before or since it was issued, and is now more than two years older than our cotemporaries in this and the sister colony. Besides, from present appearance, we believe the Colonist will attain to a green old age.

During the past three years we have honestly endeavored to do our duty, and worked to promote the best interests of both colonies, without any sectional prejudice. We have spoken out on all and every occasion without fear, favor or affection, and without setting aught down in malice. The prosperity of the country, and nothing but its prosperity, has been our guiding star; and from the patronage which a generous public has bestowed on us we have reason to believe that our exertions in their behalf have been recognized and appreciated. Our course for the future will be as it has been hitherto, independent of all cliques and parties, neither veering to the right or to the left, but dealing out to all their just due.

We flatter ourselves that we publish a better newspaper, in proportion to the number of colonial readers and population, than is now published on the Pacific Coast. Our exertions shall still continue to be directed to furnish them with the latest foreign and domestic intelligence at any reasonable expense. And in regard to the latter we may add that in summing up lately our expenditure in supplying our readers at home and abroad with reliable accounts of the gold discoveries the present year in British Columbia, we have spent between two and three thousand dollars, which had we been so disposed might have remained in our strong box without injury to our circulation. But as we believe it is the office of a newspaper to furnish news, and more particularly such news as will advance the interests of the country in which it is published, we have spared neither money nor labor, confident that with the general prosperity we will prosper also.

Our Seventh Volume, which commences to-day, we hope to make still more interesting than any that has preceded it. As soon as the mining season commences in British Columbia, we will furnish from reliable correspondents intelligence from every part of the country. This will afford all who take an interest in the country an opportunity to send to their friends abroad a correct account of the mining discoveries and general resources of both Colonies. We know that a newspaper cannot sell news if it has not got the news to sell. So we are determined to supply the readers of our Seventh Volume with as large an amount of domestic and foreign intelligence as the generous patronage of our small population will warrant us in doing. News to a newspaper proprietor is all a matter of dollars and cents, and to print a large newspaper the dollars must be forthcoming. We hope, however, that the expected accession to our population in the Spring will so increase our patronage as to enable us, not to visit our readers oftener, but to call on them daily with a larger sized sheet, containing more reading matter.

As an Advertising Medium, no journal in this Colony affords such an opportunity to advertisers to make their businesses known as the Daily and Weekly Colonist. Our circulation in town and country is far larger than any other journal published in either Colony. In this town and on Fraser River every one who cannot afford to take two papers must have the Daily Colonist at least. In the rural districts of this Colony and British Columbia, the Weekly Colonist is found everywhere. The advantage then, of choosing the Colonist as an advertising medium is apparent. What is more, advertisers wish to have their advertisements read by the greatest number of people in town and country; for it is little use in paying for advertisements if the people have no opportunity to read them. To secure, then, that object, we recommend as the *only* medium the Daily and Weekly British Colonist.

The Daily Colonist will be supplied to town subscribers at 25 cents per week, payable to the Carrier. It will be mailed and forwarded to any part of these colonies or abroad for $10 a year; $6 for six months, postage not included and subscription payable in advance.

The Weekly Colonist can be had at the publishing office or at all the book stores in town, and from our agents in the country for 25 cents a copy. The subscription for a year is $6; six months $4; three months $2 50; payable in advance. All who may desire to post their friends abroad about affairs here are recommended to send them the Weekly Colonist.

Europe.

Intelligence from the west of Ireland justified grave apprehensions of an approaching famine; five-sixths of the potatoe crop had been destroyed by blight of recent floods.

Lord Forth has destroyed himself by taking poison.

Gold has been discovered in considerable quantities in the province of Otago, New Zealand. Sailors were deserting their ships, the value of labor had increased, and there was every appearance of all public works being stopped.

A terrible storm had caused a great devastation in the Department of Gard. The Salle mines were flooded by water, in consequence of which the sides fell in, burying 17 workmen, who were either suffocated or drowned.

Duels seem to be increasing in Germany. The *Zeit*, of Frankfort, states that a hostile encounter had just been fought near that city, between Major Von der Tann, Chamberlain to the King of Bavaria, and an Austrian officer, whose name was not given. The Major was shot in the abdomen, and soon after expired.

An Austrian nobleman, Baron de Silberstein, who died recently at Vienna, has by will bequeathed 200,000 florins to each of the Universities of Vienna and Prague, to be employed in assisting poor students, and 40,000 florins to a Mu'lle Rollner, an actress.

How the Devil Tempted Prentice, of the Louisville Journal.—An interesting piece of intelligence is given in a recent number of the New York *World*. That paper says:

"George D. Prentice has proved himself an incorruptible patriot. Among the many schemes for carrying Kentucky out of the Union was a persevering attempt to buy Prentice, or, failing in that, to buy his paper. He was first approached with the modest offer of $20,000, which was, of course, promptly declined. The anxious buyers thinking, perhaps, their bid had been below Prentice's estimate of his honor, increased their offer, and through an old political friend, since quartered at Fort Lafayette, he was informed that $50,000 were in a Louisville bank, subject to the draft of George D. Prentice, provided the *Journal* was henceforth conducted according to certain terms. An increased severity upon the Disunionists in the columns of the *Journal* was the response to this proposal. Next came a railroad man from the far West, who eschewed all politics, and wanted an influential paper to support the Pacific Railroad enterprise. He would give Prentice $250,000 for the *Journal*. The bid was too low, and George D. Prentice remains unbought and unpurchasable."

A Rich Loot.—Among the booty taken by French soldiers at Pekin, was (says the *Toulonnais*) a valuable and curious work of art, viz.: a figure of a camel in solid silver, nearly twenty inches high, bearing on its back a clock, and its hump being decorated with rubies, emeralds, and other precious stones. The statuette, on which the word "London" is engraved, is in the possession of a non-commissioned officer of the 101st Regt., who, the *Toulonnais* states, has refused 70,000f. for it.

A Sharp Chinaman.—A firm in the interior of California, who deal largely in gold dust, found out some time since, that they were swindled in some of the dust they bought. They kept a sharp look-out and traced the fraud to a Chinaman from whom they had purchased dust in considerable quantities. The fraud was effected by filing up Chinese coins, or *cash*, and mixing it with fine dust in the proportion of about four dollars to the ounce.

☞ The late Lord Chancellor of England, Campbell, it is well known, was fond of a joke, and sometimes had the tables turned upon himself. A few days before his death he met a barrister who had grown very stout of late, and remarked, "Why, Mr. ——, you are getting as fat as a porpoise."

"Fit companion, my lord, for the *Great Seal*," was the ready repartee.

☞ Lady Havelock is about to present a handsome set of colours to the 24th Surrey (Havelock Temperance) Rifles. The corps, which has only been established a few months numbers upwards of 500 effectives, all of whom are teetotallers.

Tailoring in London.

On Wednesday, a miserable-looking old man, named Charles Parker, 57, was charged with stealing a vice from a marine-store shop in King street, St. Giles'. Thomas Jackson, the keeper of the shop, said he missed the vice in consequence of his wife drawing his attention to it. He went after the prisoner, who had just passed the shop, overtook him, and found the vice upon him. It was taken from a nail on the door-post. It was worth 4s. 6d.

Mr. Henry inquired if the prisoner was known.

Police constable 335 A stated that he took the prisoner into custody. He said he took it for want of food. He was not known to the police. He said he had no employment for three years.

The prisoner—No regular employment. I plead guilty. It was from hunger that I did it. I had nothing at all to eat yesterday. I never took anything before. They may have seen me passing up and down, but I never took anything.

Mr. Henry—What are you?

The prisoner—I am a tailor, but have not had any regular employment lately. I have tried to get a living by buying old clothes and mending them up to sell again. But sometimes I cannot get a customer, and then I am obliged to sell them at the shops, and they give me hardly anything for them, so that I cannot get a living at it.

Mr. Henry—I should think you could get employment as a journeyman.

The prisoner—They will not employ old men.

Mr. Henry—At reduced wages they probably would.

The prisoner—Why, what do they give? The last work I had was for —— (mentioning a well-known firm), and they gave me 10d. a pair for making trousers, and out of that I had to find my own trimming, silk, twist and all. Now, just consider, Sir. After buying the trimmings out of 10d. how much have you got for yourself? I could not get a living out of it.

Mr. Henry—Can you refer to any one to give you a character?

Prisoner—No. The last place where I had a lodging the people have moved away long ago, and at the shop where I worked they have forgotten me by this time.

Mr. Henry—How old are you?

Prisoner—Fifty-seven

Mr. Henry—And do you not know a single person who will say a good word for you? (The prisoner shook his head.) You must be remanded till we ascertain your character.—*Weekly Dispatch.*

Looking after Parisian Morals.—For nearly three-quarters of a century a preserved fruit shop, "La Mere Moreau," on the quay nearly opposite the Pont Neuf, has been one of the sights of Paris. Many years ago fashionable ladies used to drive there in carriages, to eat brandy cherries, preserved plums and peaches, and, above all, little green China oranges in syrup. The luscious fruits were handed to customers by comely damsels, who presented a silver spoon or fork to eat them with. The character of the fruit and the plate remains unchanged to the present day, but as much cannot be said of the customers or the handmaids, the former being principally students, and the latter such ladies as students in their hours of thoughtless recreation love to consort with. Moreover, the house of La Mere Moreau, instead of standing alone, has now hosts of imitators, and a silver counter, across which *prunes et chinois* are sold, may be found in almost every considerable street in Paris. In this state of things the Prefect of Police issues a decree, reciting—"That there has arisen in Paris a special kind of drinking-houses called *debits prunes et chinois*, where the customers are served by women. That it is necessary to submit these establishments to social regulations. Therefore we decree:—Art. 1. The keepers of the above establishments are required to see that the girls of the counter should not make themselves remarked either by their costume, by an unseemly attitude, by shocking or provocative familiarity towards passers-by and customers, and that they do not partake the libations of the latter." Subsequent articles provide that all such girls of the counter, as aforesaid, are to be registered, and made to have *livrets* like other servants.

Melancholy Death of a Bride.—On the morning of Thursday, the 19th ult., a young couple, Mr. J. A. Bennett and Miss Edith Freeman, of Bermonsdey, were married, and in the evening left London on a wedding tour, proceeding first to Brighton, where they engaged apartments at Payne's Marine Hotel. Mr. Bennett, however, having caught cold on the journey, was, on the following day, attacked with bronchitis, his case being so serious that, in spite of all the care of Mr. Payne and his assistants, and of the medical gentlemen in attendance, his life was despaired of. The attention of the young wife was so unremitting, and her anxiety so great, that she broke down under her sufferings, and was seized with illness on the following Thursday, from which no means could be devised to rally her, and she died on the Sunday afternoon. Mr. Bennett had, however, by this time somewhat recovered, so as to be enabled to be removed to London on Monday, which was done, the remains of the unfortunate bride following him on the next day. The bereaved bridegroom attended the funeral.

Have we Lost the State Controller?—The Sacramento *Union* of the 23d Nov. says:

Quite a sensation was created in town yesterday by the announcement that Saml. H. Brooks, State Controller, had resigned his office, and the rumor that he had gone on his winding way to "Dixie" *via* Panama. Brooks recently sold the dwelling on F street, owned by him and occupied by Thos. Findley, for $4,650, and before leaving the city, a few days ago, settled up some private business, as also all matters connected with his duties as Stamp Commissioner. He seems to have given no notice of his intention to resign or leave, as several who were constantly transacting official business with him knew nothing of such an intention. It is not known to us that Brooks has actually left the State; his name is not in the list of passengers by the Uncle Sam. It is generally believed, however, that he left upon that steamer on Thursday, and that he is not bound for New York.

☞ Sewing machines are being imported into England at the rate of 9000 per annum.

A Breeze in New York Newspaperdom.

A lively triangular war is being waged between the three leading New York dailies, in which they deal swinging blows at each other. The *Times* and *Tribune* accuse Bennett with being a traitor, and the *Herald* with giving aid and comfort to the enemy, indirectly. Their last shots brought down the rigorous old Scotchman in the following fashion:

The *Times* says we are in favor of Jeff. Davis and the rebels. The "little villain" knows that he imitates his father, the devil, when he writes that. If the rebels triumphed, what would property be worth here? The *Times* has only $20,000, according to its own confession, and has outstanding notes to double that amount. Of course it could lose nothing. Now, the *Herald* has plenty of real estate, and no notes out. Of course, then, it would lose everything. Which paper, then, is more likely to favor a rebel success, the *Herald* or the *Times*?

The *Tribune* accuses us of wishing a war with England. Why? "So the rebels may succeed," says the *Tribune*. That is very well for the *Tribune*, whose size is reduced and whose salaries are cut down, who tried to rob the journeymen printers, whose whole concern is not worth a bad half-penny. Then the *Tribune* lies a little about the *Herald*, and then it denies several true things we say of it. For instance, that a *Tribune* man came to our office and begged us to cease exposing the *Tribune's* faults. Now we assert that a partner and stockholder in the *Tribune* newspaper came to our office during the Bull Run excitement, and begged us to cease our attacks on the *Tribune*, as he feared that office might be mobbed. He also told us that Greeley was ill of brain fever; that the excitement about the Bull Run affair was killing Greeley, and begged us to appease that excitement. If the *Tribune* wants the man's name we will give it.

The Ground and Character of Intervention in Mexico.

The letters from Mexico to the end of August, declare that the gloom and wretchedness of the English in the interior are extreme. The Government, while it fails to guarantee them protection and security, multiples and aggravates its exactions. A property tax of one per cent. has been imposed on all persons living in the district of Mexico. Foreigners have been declared liable to, and are paying it, by the advice, it is said, of the British Minister, under protest. Even the poor and peculiarly British consolation of grumbling is denied our countrymen, and Mr. Moran, the editor of the English newspaper in the City of Mexico, has been arrested on the charge of publishing comments on the acts of the Government.

It is impossible that we can allow Mexico to continue thus to set at nought every obligation and defy every summons. If its Government will not do its duty to its own people, it must at least do its duty to us. If we had taken no part in procuring its independence, if we had lent it no money, we should still have the same claim upon it for just treatment of our citizens as we have upon Japan or any other country, Pagan or Christian, to which our merchants trade. The French have also a strong interest in Mexico, arising out of different circumstances. There are more Frenchmen than Englishmen in the Republic, the City of Mexico alone containing three thousand, and they have suffered with our countrymen, on the one hand by the general disorder, and on the other by the legalized injustice of successive Governments. It is not, therefore, easy to understand why some of the Paris newspapers should take pleasure in discrediting the intention of the Governments to join in measures for obtaining redress for the wrongs which their contrymen in Mexico have sustained, and which they still endure. The expedition which has been announced is necessary, and therefore will be carried out. But if it is necessary to bring the Mexican Government back with a strong hand to the acknowledgement of its international duties, it is equally important to avoid anything like intervention in the domestic affairs of the country. Our neighbours have never professed to hold the principle of non-intervention as a fixed rule of policy; but, generalization apart, it is clearly for the interest of all parties that the Mexicans should be allowed to terminate their disputes in their own way. We should greatly assist them in doing so if we take the portion of revenue which belongs to us, instead of allowing it to aliment a civil war. By foregoing, or at least forbearing to enforce, our claims, we have, in fact, been bribing the factions to continue the strife. The interests of all parties will take a new shape when the necessity of reckoning with foreign powers is brought home to them. In possession of the seaports, there is no just claim which we may not enforce upon the Government. We trust, therefore, that the suggested military march to the interior has no place in the intentions of the powers. Such an occupation would give a character of indefinitness to the enterprise, would open the path to any adventurous and speculative policy, and prove greatly embarrassing. We at this distance cannot pretend to fix the fortunes of Mexico; that must be left to the influence of events, to the pressure of circumstances, and, above all, to the character of the people. Such an occurrence as the announced discovery of rich gold placers on the Western coast of Mexico, will do more to determine the future of that State than all the regiments that could be sent from Europe. We had better leave the country to nature and to time.—*London Daily News.*

☞ Gen. McClellan has been heard to say that he will never attempt to advance very far into the interior of the enemy's country until he can teach his own troops to behave as well in Virginia as they do at home. It is only fair to state that but few regiments have been guilty of committing outrages. The great mass of the loyal Potomac army is made up of sober, well disciplined men.

☞ The Boston *Liberator*, which holds the constitution "a league with hell and a covenant with death," now very politely calls President Lincoln "the slave-hound of Illinois," while the *Anti-Slavery Standard* styles him "the unlooked-for assistant of Beauregard and Davis."

☞ A new invention in artillery is noticed in the Pittsburg papers. It consists of an entire battery on a single carriage. The six field pieces are securely fastened on a turn-table, which revolves as the guns are successively discharged.

☞ Queen Victoria now reigns over 174,000,000 of people. Of this number British India has 135,000,000.

CAUTION AGAINST COUNTERFEITS.

The high repute and extensive sale of Messrs. Perry's Medicines having induced many unprincipled individuals to foist upon the public illicit and spurious compositions of their own preparation, Messrs. Perry beg to inform persons purchasing their medicines, that none are genuine unless the underneath signature of R. & L. PERRY & Co. is affixed on the outside of each wrapper of the Cordial Balm of Syriacum and Detersive Essence, and their name, address, and also that of the medicine, is blown on the bottle, to imitate which is felony; and, in addition, all Messrs. Perry's medicines sold in Australia, India, China, and all other parts of the world, will be protected by a patent capsule affixed to each bottle, bearing their name and address in full; and every packet and bottle must be accompanied by a copy of the pamphlet, entitled "Extracts from the 'Silent Friend,'" which is included in the price charged for the medicine.

R&L Perry & Co

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Messrs. R. & L. PERRY & Co. are only to be consulted at their residence, No. 19, Berners street, Oxford street, London, as they never, under any circumstances travel either at home or abroad, and they hereby caution the public against any person using their names.

THE GREATEST MEDICAL DISCOVERY OF THE AGE.

PERRY'S CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM.—Established nearly a century, and known throughout the world as THE GREATEST REGENERATOR; a never-failing remedy for the loss of manly power, restores the impaired powers of life when exhausted by the follies of youth, maturity, or old age. It is a certain cure in all cases of extreme nervous debility produced by early imprudence, and various other causes, spermatorrhœa, exhaustion, incapacity for society, study, or business, indigestion, shortness of breath, dimness of sight, giddiness, cholic, bowel and billious liver complaints, constipation and relaxation, dysentery, asthma, jaundice, fever, lumbago, gout, rheumatism, coughs, colds, sore, weak, and ulcerated throats, nervousness, hysteria, pains in the limbs, interrupted circulation, tic-doloreaux, restlessness at night, all chronic diseases, and all female complaints. This invaluable medicine is the most wonderful triumph of art over nature, and is adapted for both sexes. It has the effect of restoring and increasing the natural vigor of those who are suffering from prostration and languor produced by sojourning in the colonies or in hot climates. Thousands have been restored to health and vigour by its use, as sworn to on oath before the Right Hon. Lord Mayor of London, and the following Aldermen—Sir Peter Laurie, Kt., Sir James Duke, Bart., M. P., Sir John Musgrove, Bart., Sir George Carroll, Kt., Sir Robert Walter Carden, Kt., David William Wire, Esq., William Cubitt, Esq., M. P., Sir Henry Muggeridge, Kt., and others.

Price 11s. per bottle, or four quantities in one for 33s., which saves 11s.; and in £5 bottles, effecting a saving of £1 12s.

Perry's Concentrated Detersive Essence,

a remedy for any of the forms of Secondary Symptoms, and for purifying the system from contaminations. It is recommended for all those diseases for which mercury, &c., are not only employed in vain, but too often to the utter ruin of health. Its action is purely detersive, and its beneficial influence on the system is undeniable. Price 11s. and 33s. per bottle, also a saving of 11s.

Perry's Patent Concentrated Essence of Copaiba & Cubeb Sugar-Coated Globules

composed of rare and valuable gums, and also extract of copaiba and cubebs, for the cure of obstinate gleet, gonnorrhœa, and all urethral affections, sedimentary and high-colored secretions, dorsal pains and renal irritations in either sex, causing immediate relief by subduing inflammatory action, perfectly tasteless, still retaining at the same time all the curative powers of these valuable preparations.

In all cases of Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Stricture, &c., a single trial will prove the efficacy of this unequalled remedy; as it at once acts upon the kidneys, bladder, and the urino-genital organs, restoring them to their healthy state. Price 11s. and 33s. per box.

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PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS.

an infallible cure for all diseases of the skin, such as scurvy, scrofula, ulcers, boils, blotches, pimples on the face and body, &c. Price 11s. and 33s per box.

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A Medical Work on the Nature, Treatment, and Cure of nervous and physical debility, exhaustion, spermatorrhœa, and all urino-genital diseases of the nervous system, and other diseases incidental to both sexes, producing a degeneracy of mental and physical strength, terminating in total debility and incapacity; showing why these diseases so often appear incurable, when in reality they can be *effectually removed by the most simple means.*

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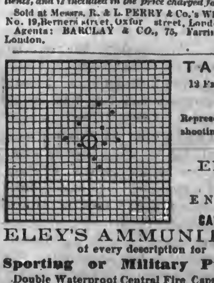

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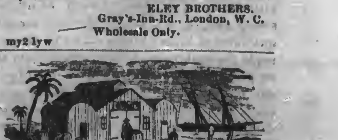

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